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THE TIMES

MONDAY JUNE 29 1992

EDUCATION
Life & Times section
page 7

No 64,371

45p



Flying visit: M Mitterrand and Alija Izetbegovic, right, president of Bosnia, greeting Bosnian militiamen in Sarajevo yesterday

Sanctuary for whales

As Japan, Iceland and Norway prepare to apply for a renewal of commercial whaling at the meeting of the International Whaling Commission opening in Glasgow today, the French have put forward plans for a whale sanctuary in the Antarctic Ocean.

The haven idea could hinder Japan's wish to hunt the 750,000 minke whales in the South Atlantic. Page 5

Drink slip-up

A loophole in the drink-drive laws could mean that at least 100,000 drivers convicted of refusing to give police a breath specimen in the past 20 years could have their convictions quashed. Page 3

Bates' day

Jeremy Bates, the British No. 1 tennis player, will



meet Guy Forger today in the fourth round of the men's singles at Wimbledon. Pages 27, 30

Cancer hope

A cancer drug that has shown dramatic results in treating brain tumours is to be developed by a US drug company after the Cancer Research Campaign negotiated a multi-million pound deal. Page 8

ICI threat

Imperial Chemical Industries will close its £1.5 billion UK chlorine business, which employs 7,000, unless the price charged for electricity is cut. ICI has suffered a 40 per cent rise in power prices. Page 19

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1X

Mitterrand opens way for Sarajevo airlift

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

TWO French air force planes packed with aid were heading for Sarajevo last night hours after a dramatic six-hour visit by President Mitterrand of France appeared to have opened the besieged city's airport for international relief supplies.

Just before he left the Bosnian capital M Mitterrand and his party were forced to take shelter as Serbs and Bosnian forces skirmished around the airport but the president was said not to have been in immediate danger.

M Mitterrand's mission stunned his European Community colleagues who had been with him at their meeting in Lisbon. They were unaware that the 75-year-old had begun the journey to Sarajevo after the talks.

The president flew from the Croatian port of Split to Sarajevo in a French military

helicopter yesterday morning, becoming the first person to land at its airport since the bloody siege began in earnest.

Sarajevo has been surrounded by Bosnian Serb forces for almost three months and hunger is now widespread among its 300,000 inhabitants. The people of Sarajevo, recently convinced that the world had abandoned them to their fate were incredulous and then jubilant as they heard of the president's visit.

Dzelilana Pecanin, who watched the French president's convoy of white United Nations armoured personnel carriers rush past her block of flats, said: "I thought it was a lie at first. This is a great gesture. It brings great hope, now we know that this will be soon be over."

M Mitterrand's visit is a personal triumph for Bernard Kouchner, his minister

of health and humanitarian action. M Kouchner, founder of the French medical charity Médecins Sans Frontières and an advocate of intervention in Sarajevo-type situations.

M Mitterrand met Muslim, Croat and Serb leaders in Sarajevo and was greeted with shouts of "Vive La France" in the city centre. "I did not arrive in Sarajevo as a negotiator," the president said. "I arrived to show the world the central point of the problem with humanitarian aid."

M Mitterrand decided to fly to the Bosnian capital as Bosnian Serbs, clearly taking the threat of an international military intervention seriously, had begun moving artillery and tanks away from the airport. Serbian officials said that they were preparing to hand over the airport to UN officials yesterday but Fred

Eckhard, a UN spokesman, said that aid would not be flown in for another 24 hours because it would have to be secured by Canadian troops. The French mission has pre-empted UN plans.

A western diplomat in Belgrade said last night that the French airlift, due to continue today, could go wrong because Serbs and Bosnian government forces all had weapons around the airport which could be used to shoot down planes. Under a UN-negotiated agreement this equipment was due to be removed before aid was sent in.

US government officials will be outraged by the French stealing the show as they were hoping that television pictures of large American aeroplanes lumbering into Sarajevo packed with aid would boost President Bush's election chances.

On Saturday Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, praised Serb troops for beginning to withdraw from the airport but accused the mainly Muslim Territorial Defence Force of harrying the Serbs as they pulled out.

M Mitterrand visited Sarajevo 78 years to the day after a Bosnian Serb nationalist had assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand in the city, sparking the First World War.

The EC summit in Lisbon left open the Community's position on using troops or aircraft to protect a mission to take food and medicine to Sarajevo with or without a ceasefire (George Brock in Lisbon writes). The prime ministers agreed that any action by armed forces grouped under the nine-country Western European Union would have to be taken with UN authority.

Croat advance, page 13
Toslon's finest hour, page 14
Diary, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Major will take tough line on Maastricht

BY SHEILA GUNN AND ROBIN OAKLEY

JOHN Major will embark on a high-risk strategy of staking his reputation, and possibly his political future, on his ability to persuade the wavering MPs to back the Bill ratifying the Maastricht treaty this autumn.

On his return from the weekend's European Community summit in Lisbon, close colleagues dismissed stories suggesting the prime minister would offer his party a "back me or sack me" ultimatum on the Bill.

But they talk of his deep personal commitment to the Maastricht treaty and say he has not ruled out making ratification a vote of confidence issue, although no serious consideration has been given to the idea. He says he has "given his word" and will not break it.

Mr Major is notably taking every opportunity to scotch any notion that he sympathises with the rebels and says scornfully in private that he did not see any election manifestos from Conservative candidates suggesting they did not agree with the government's policy on Europe.

Reporting to MPs today, Mr Major will repeat his priority for pressing ahead with enlargement of the Community and return of powers from Brussels to nation states. But a truer guide to the success of his tougher pro-treaty stance will come on Thursday when the Commons and Lords discuss Britain's agenda for the EC presidency. The debate will demonstrate how deep the "ditch Maastricht" sentiment runs.

Mr Major's determination to stick by Maastricht contrasts with the most outspoken attack yet on the treaty from Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven, his predecessor. Continued on page 18, col 1

Thatcher pledge, page 12
Loose cannon, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Flight into who-knows-what

WHATEVER the motives, it must have been one of the boldest diplomatic gestures of recent times. François Mitterrand, sans flak jacket, flew into the besieged Sarajevo airport to see, as he put it, if he could help to re-link the shattered city to the outside world and to help aid to reach 300,000 besieged and starving residents. Sarajevo residents have little water, bread or electricity, and disease is threatening.

M Mitterrand took off from Split in one of two white armoured French military helicopters bearing official markings, a slightly safer option than the official ten-seat private aircraft in which he had arrived from Lisbon the night before.

At Split airport he shook hands with his pilots, appearing to be wishing them luck on the momentous flight which lay ahead over barren

The president took many risks in making his daring intervention, writes John Holland

white mountains and no-body-knows-what beyond that. An hour later he stepped out on to the tarmac at Sarajevo airport.

The assorted freelance snipers and Serbian artillerymen in the surrounding hills, renowned for their all-night drinking sessions, had either not received word he was coming, or were still asleep.

General Lewis Mackenzie, head of UN peace-keeping forces in Sarajevo and buttoned down in a green flak jacket, greeting the French president with a handshake and a look of wonder on his face. General Mackenzie, who had earlier described the

French leader's journey as impractical, now called him "brave" for making it.

As if to prove the point, the six-hour visit ended with the 75-year-old head of state, now wearing a flak-jacket, taking shelter from a sudden fire-fight across the tarmac.

Two hours before the president flew in, a Mitterrand aide had tried by telephone to seek assurances from General Mackenzie that it was safe to land on the airport runway. That call apparently led the president to decide to leave his plane in Split in favour of a military helicopter, which could land in widely varying circumstances and terrain.

Back in Split, the sun-splashed Croatian port which is nowadays home to tens of thousands of Bosnian and Croatian refugees, locals shook their heads in disbelief.

Continued on page 18, col 8

Class war Cinderellas bash Oxford ball

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A WAVE of bash-the-rich protests by Class War activists turned the glittering end-of-year balls at University College and New College, Oxford, into revels to be remembered less for the champagne fizz than for the presence of the "fuzz" at the weekend.

Police were called in to break up disturbances which led to the arrest of 27 protesters for various public order offences. They were all given police bail in the early hours of yesterday.

Last night police were on standby for further class-bashing, this time in the city of Bath, where extremists threatened to disrupt the huge open air concert by José Carreras after spraying the bandstand and concert box office with less than affectionate messages to opera lovers.

Up to 100 louts waded into revel-

lers as they arrived at the gates of University College for the Shelley Ball in honour of its poet alumnus, spitting, jeering and setting fire to bales of hay behind the college, causing damage to student cars.

One angry undergraduate, aged 20, said: "We can't understand it. Unless someone took a severe dislike to Shelley's poetry there can be no explanation. It is disgusting and most upsetting."

"The balls have got nothing to do with wealth. We save long and hard for our tickets and we just come here to let our hair down with a bit of style at the end of the year."

Two police officers and one protester were treated for minor injuries in clashes after so-called "new age" travellers joined the Class War warriors in the night of arson and mayhem at University College. Meanwhile at New College the front

quad gate had to be shut to prevent demonstrators running amok in the grounds.

Inspector Paul Kimbrey, of Thames Valley police, said of the University College demonstration: "There were numerous complaints of aggravation to patrons of the ball throughout the night, although there is no evidence to suggest that they tried to storm the grounds. It didn't stop the ball going ahead, though some of the students, particularly the girls, were very frightened. The situation was under control by midnight."

The recession has already taken its toll of traditional Oxford college of several balls, but all of the 1,300 £75 tickets for the white-tie Shelley Ball were sold.

Menacing slogans such as "Die Rich Scum" were meanwhile sprayed on the bandstand and concert box

office in Royal Victoria Park in Bath. Leaflets were also left on cars urging "travellers", the homeless and "class warriors" to demonstrate at the concert.

The far-left anarchist group claimed that fans had paid more for a ticket than most people get as a week's wages and vowed to disrupt the concert, at which 15,000 were due to turn out to hear Carreras sing in front of the city's Royal Crescent.

Concert organisers, who branded the group's actions as puerile, said that private security and policing arrangements were sufficient to combat any problems.

The executive producer, Greg Lynn, said that with half the tickets costing £20 prices compared favourably with those charged for rock concerts.

Photograph, page 2

US West Coast hit by quakes

FROM WILLIAM CASH IN LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA was put on emergency alert after two severe earthquakes rocked the American West Coast yesterday, and state officials warned residents to brace themselves for a "major earthquake sequence" over the next few days.

The first earthquake jolted Los Angeles residents awake at 4.58am. Measuring 7.4 on the Richter scale, it was the strongest in southern California for 40 years. The 35-second tremor was felt as far away as San Diego, Los Vegas, Phoenix and New Mexico.

With its epicentre 130 miles east of Los Angeles in the small desert town of Joshua Tree, near Palm Springs, there was serious concern that its proximity to the 6.1 earthquake on April 22 could trigger an even more serious natural disaster than the 1989 quake in San Francisco, which measured 7.1 but left 63 dead and billions of dollars in damage because of its proximity to a densely populated area.

The large after-shock — estimated to be between 6.5 and 7 on the Richter scale — shook Los Angeles again at 8.07am. High-rise buildings in the city centre swayed. Roads buckled, and craters appeared in the tarmac.

Steve Bryant, a seismologist at Caltech geological centre, said: "This is a large earthquake and we can expect a lot of damage. So far it's not the big one, but it's a very good test for those who have been waiting for LA to cave in."

Pete Wilson, the California governor, immediately flew to the devastated area, where a boy was killed after a chimney collapsed and more than 50 people were treated in hospital for multiple injuries. President Bush canceled a game of golf to be briefed on the damage throughout southern California.

There was widespread concern last night that the series of tremors might lead to the earthquake that has been widely prophesied in Los Angeles for many years and may be potentially more devastating than the 1916 San Francisco quake, which occurred before the Richter scale was invented.

Worst quake, page 11

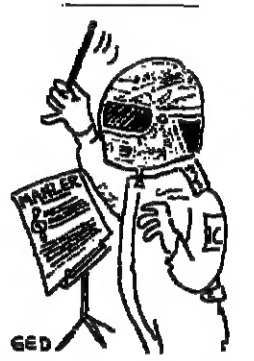
TODAY IN THE TIMES

TOP BRAND BRITISH



British shoppers live and buy by the brand name, but it is all in the mind
Life & Times
Page 1

TOP SPEED SCORER



A Mahler maestro says the famed Adagietto is played far too slowly
Life & Times
Page 2

TOP OF THE BEACHES



Passport to France unveils the glories of the Atlantic coast
Life & Times
Page 5

SEAS OF BLOOD



THE UNTHINKABLE IS ON THE VERGE OF HAPPENING AGAIN

Whaling is brutal and unnecessary — driven only by man's greed for profit. Yet this week in Glasgow, the whaling nations, Norway, Japan and Iceland will be pressing for the mass slaughter of whales to resume. Only six years ago commercial whaling ceased, just as many species were on the brink of extinction.

HELP US TO PREVENT A TRAGEDY NOW

The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society is the only charity whose sole aim is the conservation of whales and dolphins. We need to continue putting pressure on the whalers. Only with your help will we be able to secure a safe future for these magnificent, gentle creatures.

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WHALE AND DOLPHIN CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Legal loophole puts 100,000 drink-drive convictions at risk

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A LOOPHOLE in the drink-drive laws could mean that at least 100,000 drivers convicted of refusing to give a breath specimen to police in the past 20 years could have their convictions quashed at a huge cost to the exchequer.

In a test case two High Court judges have rejected an appeal by the Crown Prosecution Service against the acquittal of a man under the Road Traffic Act because the standard wording of the charge is flawed.

Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Pill ruled in favour of Terry Corkoran, 43, an unemployed man from Merseyside who was acquitted by magistrates at Bootle in January last year.

The ruling comes at an embarrassing time for the government. On Wednesday tough new laws on drunken and dangerous drivers will come into force.

The Corkoran case is under urgent review by Home Office lawyers while the CPS, which has been refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords, considers a petition to the Lords' appellate committee.

tee which could sanction an appeal.

Parliamentary draughtsmen are being blamed for the duplicity involved in the charge which accuses defendants of breaching either one of two sections in the 1972 act involving drink-driving or being drunk in charge.

Mr Corkoran, who was not available for comment, was charged, in the standard way, with "failing without reasonable cause to provide a specimen of breath for analysis in the course of an investigation under section four or section five of the Road Traffic Act".

Such charge sheets do not specify which section and as each action involves different allegations carrying a variety of penalties, the prosecution fails between two stools.

Sean Sexton, Mr Corkoran's solicitor, who spotted the loophole, said: "The charge for refusing a specimen of breath should specify in what circumstances the refusal took place. The reason is that if the police say 'You were driving a car or attempting to drive and you refused to give a specimen' you have to be disqualified for a minimum 12 months. If, on the other hand, they allege 'You were drunk in charge of a car and refused a specimen', disqualification is discretionary."

"What is new about this particular case is that we have persuaded the High Court that they are two different offences. We have got the court to go further and say 'You can't therefore lug the two together in one charge because that is duplicitous'. A

court should not hear such a case."

Mr Sexton added: "The consequences, we do not know. But my view is that none of those charges since the 1972 act should ever have been heard and many people are entitled to have their convictions quashed, and their fines and costs refunded. It could go beyond that. If people have lost their licences and should not have, they should be entitled to compensation for that and for loss of job and increased insurance premiums. The implications are potentially highly significant."

"We are talking about a pure technicality. These people are lucky. But it is up to the prosecution to get the charge right and they have not done so."

Since 1972 between 5,000 and 8,000 people a year have been convicted of failing to provide a breath specimen at a police station.

A spokesman for the CPS said: "We have asked for a transcript of the appeal decision and we shall be studying it. We have 14 days in which to decide whether to petition the appellate committee. We cannot comment on the ramifications of this case."

The Home Office said: "We are taking this case very seriously and will be looking into the implications should it be proved that the wording of the charge is flawed."

The Road Traffic Act taking effect from Wednesday includes new offences of dangerous driving and causing death by dangerous driving.

Extended driving tests for people convicted of dangerous driving, rehabilitation courses for drink-drivers and possible disqualification after just two speeding offences are among its provisions.

Motorists convicted of causing death by dangerous driving could face five years' jail and a minimum of two years' disqualification. The dangerous driving offences replace the existing offences of reckless driving and are based more on an objective standard of driving and less on the driver's state of mind. It is thought this will make it easier to secure convictions.



Lord McCowan: found charge was flawed

Shops defy Law Lords' ruling

BY ROBIN YOUNG

SUPERMARKETS and DIY stores were open yesterday despite the Law Lords' ruling that councils can seek injunctions against Sunday opening without risking bills for traders' lost profits.

B & Q, which has spearheaded the fight for seven-day trading, reported "business as usual" at 230 stores in England and Wales. Tesco, which had 220 stores open "by public demand", said that in the hot weather trade was especially brisk for barbecue items and soft drinks. Sainsbury's said the company was keeping to its strategy of opening nearly 400 stores every Sunday, attracting some 750,000 shoppers.

Roy Edey, a campaigner against Sunday trading, said he was calling on Lord Sainsbury, as chairman of Sainsbury's, to issue a directive that his stores would immediately stop "unlawful" Sunday trading as a result of the Law Lords' judgment.

Mr Edey, a retired solicitor from northwest London who has fought a number of court actions over the issue, said: "Lord Sainsbury, as a legislator and recently appointed Knight of the Garter, has a duty to set an example."

The Law Lords ruled last week that councils in England and Wales could seek injunctions against Sunday traders without having to underwrite any lost profits if seven-day trading is eventually allowed under European law. The responsibility for meeting the bills for aborted injunctions could be shifted to the government if the European Court decides that Britain's shops acts are inconsistent with the Treaty of Rome.

Andrew Hunter, Conservative MP for Basingstoke, said he hoped councils had been out in force trying to catch shops that were defying the law by opening. However, there were no reports of injunctions being sought.

Restorers uncover medieval painting

BY SARAH JANE CHECKLAND
ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

A MEDIEVAL wall painting cycle has been discovered hidden under 750 years of grime at Chester Castle.

"It could be the most important wall painting discovery for 20 years," said David Park, head of the conservation of wall paintings at the Courtauld Institute in London. Four of his students have been working with English Heritage restorers on the vaults and walls of the Chapel of St Mary de Castro in the castle. "Under the completely white veil we have discovered some stunning paintings," said Caroline Babbington, of English Heritage. The paintings include the Visitation and the Infancy of Christ, as well as exquisite half-length angels and medallions.

Only a fragment remains of the most lively scene of all: the Miracle of Theophilus. It tells of a priest of that name who sells his soul to the Devil in

exchange for a bond (represented by a scroll). In fear of his future, Theophilus appeals to the Virgin, who arranges for him to get it back. Originally, according to an 1810 engraving, the image had depicted the moment when the Virgin returns his soul to him in the form of a bond, while the Devil attempts in vain to snatch it back. Now all that can be seen, despite cleaning work, is the Devil's shaggy horn.

Miss Babbington believes the paintings result from two specific hands, one elegant and conventional for that time, the other "forward-looking, Gothic". The whole ensemble, she says, has "the quality of a miniature, uncorrupted by later repainting". The paintings were probably commissioned by Henry III during the 1230s at the time when he took over the castle from the Earls of Chester.



Riding the rapids: competitors in the spectacular Lovat Water Ride cross the Beaulie near Inverness yesterday. The 50-mile course takes the horses over some of the roughest but most beautiful terrain in the Highlands

Complaint over music leads to siege

BY ROSEMARY SMITH

A COMPLAINT by a neighbour about loud music led to an armed siege by police yesterday at a house on the estate at the centre of last year's Tyneside riots.

Police last night rejected accusations of victimisation and over-reaction from relatives after a man who had allegedly been seen holding a gun was arrested without injury. Police cars and vans, along with armed officers and dogs, surrounded the house on the Meadow Well estate at 8.00am yesterday. A police helicopter circled overhead.

Police believed Alan Denley, 28, was armed but angry relatives denied that and said the police response was another example of victimisation on the estate following the riots. As police marksmen surrounded the house Mr Denley's girlfriend Gillian Stewart and her three children, Paul, 6, Carl, 3, and Clara, eight months, left the house.

Police allowed Mr Denley's aunt to speak to him and shortly after midday he walked out of the house hands above his head and was arrested.

The family said: "This is another example of the kind of police victimisation people on the estate are having to live with. This was a row about playing soul music yet police have turned out with a helicopter, guns and dogs."

Supt Al Tait, the officer in charge of the operation, last night backed his officers. He said two uniformed officers saw a man waving a gun in his garden and he had no option but to bring in armed police. The fact that it was the Meadow Well estate made no difference to his handling of the operation.

"The response would have been exactly the same anywhere. The fact that it was the Meadow Well had nothing to do with it," Mr Tait said.

"When you consider this man was seen by police with a gun I do not think we over-reacted. I am totally happy the matter has been resolved quietly without injury to anyone."

New arts centre proposed

BY SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A SCHEME to create a centre for the performing arts in London, funded from lottery proceeds, as a monument to the millennium, has been put to John Major. It is proposed to replace both the £250 million Covent Garden development and a suggestion for a new opera house on the South Bank.

Denis Vaughan, a musical conductor who is executive director of the Lottery Promotion Company but who wrote to the prime minister and David Mellor, the heritage secretary, as a private individual, has posed a scheme involving the restoration and up-grading of facilities in five existing West End buildings, plus a new one.

The proposal is costed at £190 million to purchase the buildings not already in national possession and restore them, as well as building a chamber opera theatre.

□ The Royal Opera House would be restored and modernised to give better acoustics, backstage facilities, storage space and front of house services at a cost of £45 million.

□ The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, would be bought from Stoll Moss Theatres for ballet and opera at a cost of £40 million.

□ The Lyceum Theatre, in the Strand, almost derelict now, is owned by the Theatres Trust and leased to Brent Walker. Its lease would be bought to restore it as a dance house or a lyric theatre devoted to nineteenth century opera for £30 million.

□ The Coliseum, in St Martin's Lane, which the government gave English National Opera £10.8 million to buy from Stoll Moss three months ago, with the remaining £2 million of the price coming from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts; £15 million would be spent on refurbishment.

□ Kingsway Hall in Kingsway, a recording and rehearsal studio that was gutted by fire two years ago, could be acquired and re-

stored for £10 million. The new £50 million building, on the site in Russell Street next to the Royal Opera House, would be a chamber opera theatre designed on the lines of the Benjamin Britten theatre built at the Royal College of Music two years ago.

It would complement all the other theatres in the group with rehearsal stages, an opera studio, a centre of ancient music and another for contemporary music, and provide a purpose-built area for the Theatre Museum, currently across Russell Street in the former flower market, which would expand its operations to become a public information centre for West End performances, as well as custodian of the theatre archive.

An exhibition on the Covent Garden development scheme is to open in the Theatre Museum on July 4, and a public appeal for £90 million towards the £250 million costs is to be launched in the autumn.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Today: International Whaling Commission expected to endorse controlled hunting. Appeal Court judges decide whether 16 year old girl should be forced to have treatment for anorexia.

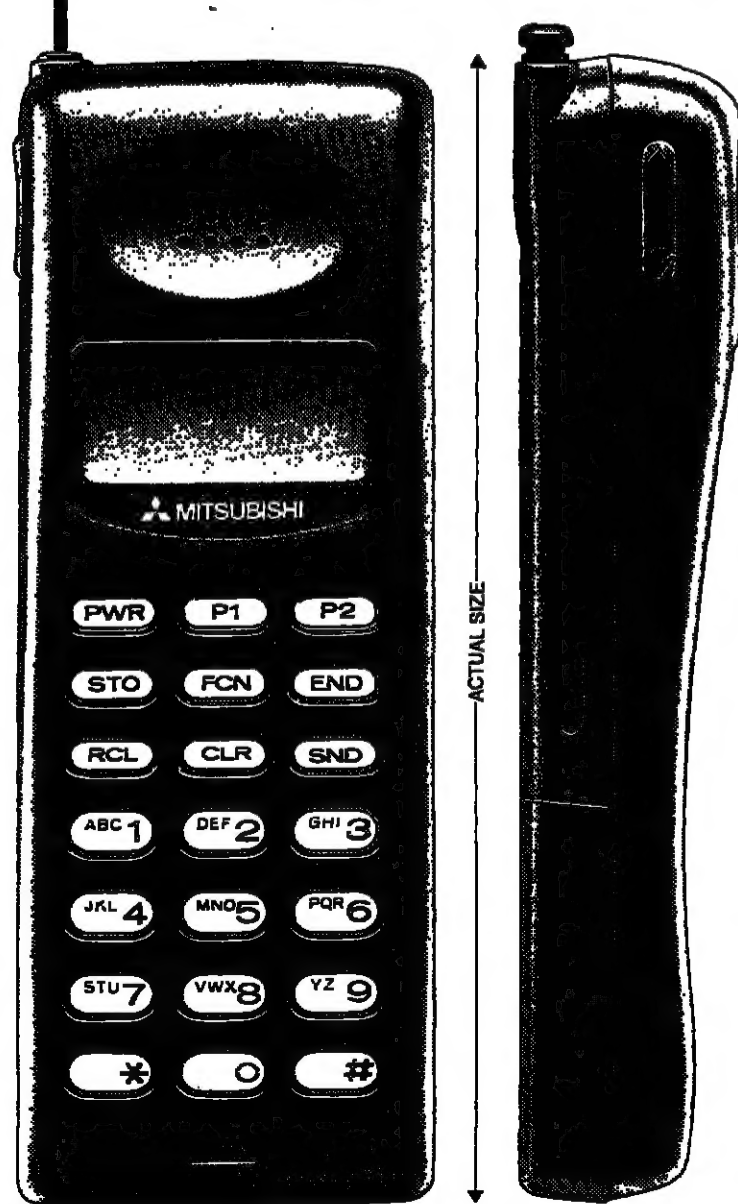
Tomorrow: Eight new traffic offences become law. Merger of Ulster Defence Regiment and Irish Rangers. Royal College of Physicians publishes report on smoking.

Wednesday: Britain starts six month EC presidency. Local Government Commission begins to oversee major local government reorganisation. Transport Department publishes report into sinking of Anjara.

Thursday: UN Secretary General Boutros-Ghali begins two day visit to London. Sir David Walker's report into insider dealing at Lloyd's is published.

Saturday: Chris Patten gives news conference before becoming Governor of Hong Kong on July 9.

How to sound convincing over the phone.



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Leading article, page 15

Champagne tumbles to £8 a bottle

IS THIS the time to stock up with champagne for Christmas? The answer would seem to be yes. Last week Tesco was advertising its offer of champagne at £7.99 a bottle, undercutting Sainsbury's May "champagne coup", which offered 10,000 cases of Champagne Beauchateau at £8.45.

Other supermarkets are likely to try to obtain supplies to compete with Tesco. Sainsbury's lowest price is £8.99, but the supermarket was recently promoting the same champagne in stores at £7.99 as a special offer.

The bargain champagnes are sold under little known names, usually those of small producers or sous-marchés of co-operatives and larger houses. The supermarkets' own-brands, which have to be regularly sourced in large quantities, are no longer likely to be the cheapest available.

Only last year it was thought that champagne

Against predictions that champagne would go the way of everything else, the supermarkets are offering bargains. Robin Young says it's the time to buy

prices were likely to rise as the result of new arrangements between the champagne houses and the grape farmers. Instead, an international collapse in demand has left smaller producers with excess stocks, which have to be sold at reduced prices to supermarkets to keep some cash coming in.

The Champagne Bureau, which represents the industry in London, has reported that just over three million bottles were shipped to the United Kingdom by the end of May, a further reduction of about one fifth on already depressed figures for 1991. Shipments to the UK fell by 34 per cent last year, and there was a 10 per cent drop overall in the top ten export markets for champagne.

Penny Bool, of the Champagne Bureau, said yesterday: "I do not remember seeing champagne at £8 a bottle for four years. Supermarkets have been able to take advantage of the fact that some producers have a tremendous stock of wine. From the consumer's point of view, it is excellent news."

The cheap champagne does not, in the opinion of connoisseurs, bear comparison with wine from the grandes marques, which still command prices of about £14 to £18 a bottle for their non-vintage wines. That said, most wine experts admit that it would be a sophisticated palate that could consistently tell the difference in a blind tasting. The bargain bottles do not

come from the best production areas, and are likely to contain a high proportion of the Pinot Meunier grape and little, if any, of the nobler Pinot Noir or Chardonnay. The wines may also have been produced by the quickest methods permissible within the appellation contrôlée regulations, and may benefit from a little additional bottle ageing to round off an edge of "greenness".

That said, the only reason for champagne drinkers not to buy bargain reserves now for the festive season, when prices usually rise to benefit from increased demand, would be if they are planning a trip to France this summer. In leading hypermarkets there, champagne is even cheaper, and the lowest price, which earlier this year was about 67 francs, has now fallen to 52.50, or little more than a fiver.



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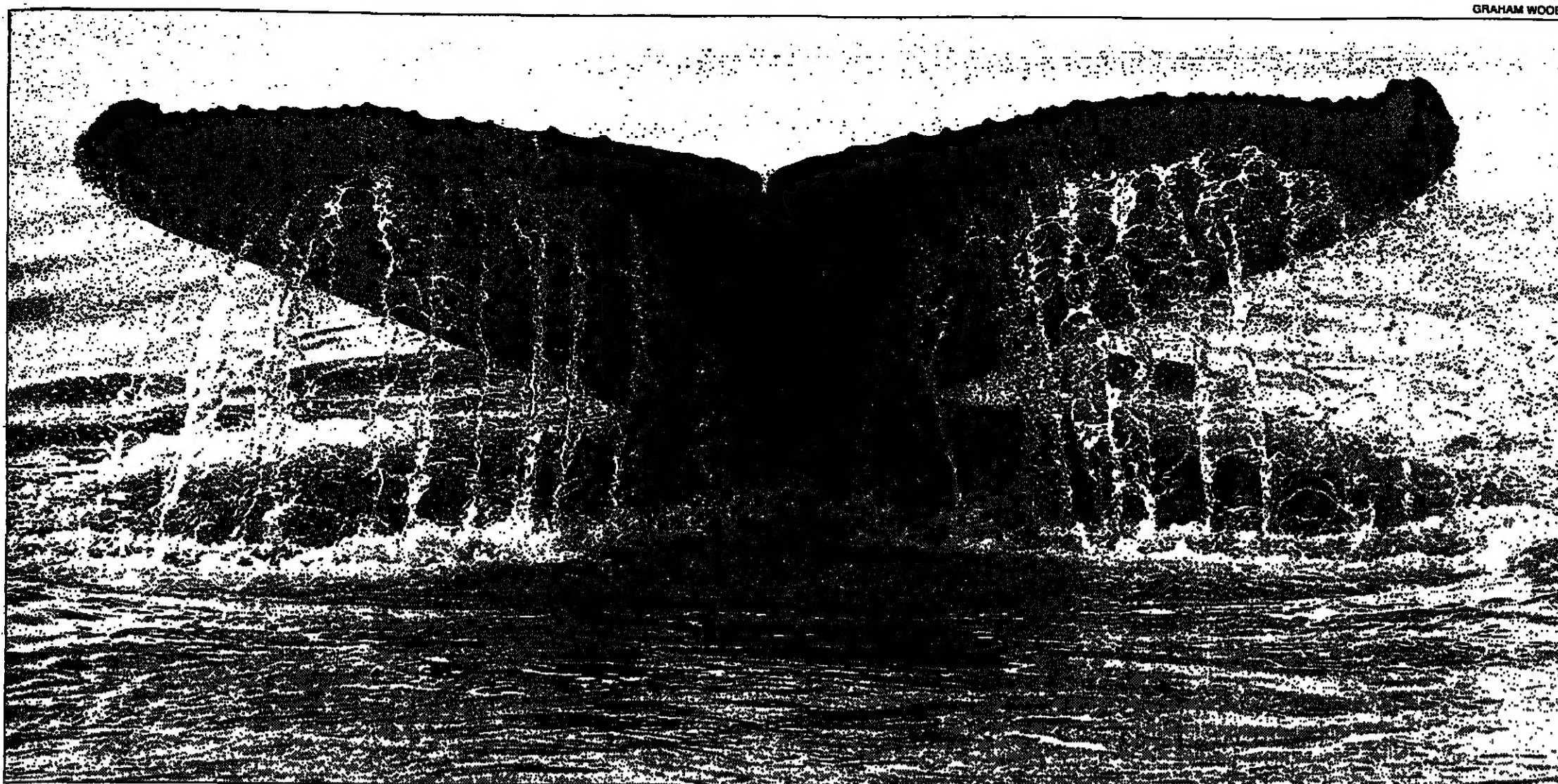
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1914-15: Dep. Secy

International Whaling Commission meets in Glasgow this week to review worldwide moratorium



Diving for cover: a humpback off Cape Cod, Massachusetts. This week's meeting in Glasgow will decide whether the Japanese can resume commercial whaling of the minke

Protesters give the Japanese food for thought

By KERRY GILL

A HUGE inflatable model of what is possibly the world's best loved "charismatic mega-fauna", to use United Nations-speak, was floated in Glasgow yesterday on the eve of the International Whaling Commission's week-long meeting.

Nearly 1,000 people, mostly young, gathered to tell Japan, Norway and Iceland of their disgust for moves to reintroduce commercial whaling. The message was especially for those Japanese who happily spend more than £70 on a pound of whale meat in the restaurants of Tokyo. It was not the time to be Japanese and on holiday in Glasgow.

With the distant drums of an Orange march beating in the background, celebrities from politics and show business clambered onto a stage to express their oneness with whales. Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, said that whales' brains were larger in proportion to their massive bodies than those of politicians. He received the first cheer of the day.

Men, not women, he said, had created the world's worst disasters, for example the present slaughter in Bosnia-Herzegovina. But of all the world's problems the plight of the whales was one of the most significant. In spite of a world moratorium on whaling, thousands of whales ended up on Japanese plates. Mr Banks said that instead of eating whales the Japanese might try eating each other.

His more practical suggestion was for a trade sanction against Japan until it stopped. He said that Norway and Iceland should be banned from entering the European Community until they adjusted their whaling policies.

Jon Magnusson, a member of the Icelandic delegation, stood silently as his country was denigrated for its call for commercial whaling to be allowed. Having listened at the door of an earlier press conference held by the Environmental Investigation Agency, he said: "It is all lies."

The Icelanders plan to stage a walk-out from the commission on Wednesday. They announced their intention of doing so last year because the commission's rules state that a spontaneous demonstration of this nature must be indicated a year in advance.

Hundreds of anti-whaling people, representing many environmental groups, have descended on Glasgow to bring pressure on the commission not to concede to the pariah nations. Many, including some Japanese, have travelled the world to stop a return to commercial fishing of minke whales.

An American tourist who stumbled into the crowds asked if it would get violent. "These things always do back home in Berkeley, California, where I come from," he said. But it did not. The few Japanese whale-lovers, looking a bit sheepish as their country was excoriated, wore Save the Whale T-shirts.

Alan Thornton, chairman of the Environmental Investigation Agency, attacked Japan for receiving pirated ivory as well as whale meat. The elephant is another animal termed by the UN as a "charismatic mega-fauna".

Greens hope Gummer backs whale sanctuary

BRITAIN'S formal reaction to a proposal to turn a vast area of ocean surrounding the Antarctic into an international whale sanctuary will be given by John Gummer, the agriculture and fisheries minister, when he opens the 44th annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) this morning.

Environmentalists are fervently hoping he will announce his support, because the plan, put forward by France, is seen as a safeguard against the resumption of commercial whaling by Japan on the minke whales of the southern Atlantic, the last relatively untouched stock of great whales.

The sanctuary, taking in all waters below 40 degrees south, would encompass the entire southern ocean in a great circumpolar sweep, including Tasmania, New Zealand and

the south of Argentina and Chile. More than half the world's whales are believed to feed and breed in these seas, in particular the southern Atlantic minke, thought to number more than 750,000.

One large international whale sanctuary already exists, in the Indian Ocean, where commercial whaling has been banned by the IWC, since 1979. This sanctuary is up for renewal at the Glasgow meeting.

Mr Gummer said last week that Britain was sympathetic to the idea of both sanctuaries. "We want to see whether we can produce a package which would confine and extend the concept of sanctuary," he said. "There are some very real practical difficulties which we are actively trying to overcome."

The southern Atlantic minke, the main beneficia-

A French plan for the seas surrounding the Antarctic, prepared for an International Whaling Commission meeting, is seen as a safeguard against commercial hunting, Michael McCarthy writes

ries of an Antarctic sanctuary, are potentially threatened because commercial whaling, although outlawed worldwide since 1986, has not yet been permanently banned. It was halted by a moratorium put in place while the scientists of the IWC attempted to devise a method of hunting a given whale stock without driving it to the edge of extinction, as has too often happened in the past.

A complex computer programme intended to do this, based on whale population dynamics and known as the revised management procedure (RMP), is nearly ready, and is likely to be presented to the full commission in Glasgow for its approval. If it is

accepted, the clear implication would be that commercial whaling could recommence.

The few remaining whaling nations, mainly Japan, Iceland and Norway, are pressing for this to happen and growing impatient with delay. Last year Iceland, angered by the commission's refusal to let it restart whaling while the RMP was still being developed, gave the required year's notice of withdrawal from the commission, which expires tomorrow.

If the Icelanders leave and the Norwegians follow suit, as they have hinted they will, they may restart commercial whaling independently. To do so would invite interna-

tional opprobrium, consumer boycotts of their products and possibly direct trade sanctions from the United States.

The Japanese are playing more of a waiting game, having most at stake. Japan has the world's keenest taste for whale meat, with a whole minke whale on the dockside worth between £20,000 and £25,000. Under the guise of "scientific whaling" the Japanese have continued to hunt, killing several hundred animals each year whose meat ends up in restaurants, and more important for them, keeping their whaling fleet active.

If and when the revised management procedure is adopted, the Japanese will at

once ask the commission to give it a quota of whales to hunt. These could only be the minke, because they are the only undepleted stock, being the smallest of the great whales and so far the least hunted.

At last year's meeting of the IWC in Reykjavik, New Zealand, the fiercest opponents of whaling, made clear how many animals this would involve.

Ian Stewart, the New Zealand commissioner, said hunting under the revised management procedure would allow 100,000 minke to be taken out of the southern Atlantic stock.

If the IWC remains a body organising whaling and not, as the Icelanders and Norwegians believe, a body preventing it, it seems logical, if not politically inevitable, that sooner or later, the RMP will be introduced and whaling

may restart. The French proposal of an Antarctic sanctuary is an extra insurance policy against the resumption of whaling because it would severely restrict the area in which the Japanese were able to hunt.

Mr Gummer said that, even if the revised management procedure were adopted, Britain would still vote against the resumption of commercial whaling on three grounds: uncertainty of the state of whale stocks, difficulty of enforcing the procedures, and the lack of an assuredly humane method of killing.

"We will not even consider the lifting of the moratorium in circumstances where these three major issues are all of them unresolved," he said.

A 75 per cent majority of nations which vote is required for the moratorium to be lifted.

Slow birth cycle hinders recovery

CONFERENCE AGENDA

THE main points on the agenda of the week-long IWC meeting are:

- Is the revised management procedure (RMP) for whale hunting ready, or is further work needed on it?
- If the RMP is ready, is it to be adopted by the 37-country conference?
- If it is adopted, is a quota to be set under it for killing whales by the pro-whaling nations (meaning an end to the 1986 moratorium on commercial whaling)?
- Are the waters around the Antarctic below 40 degrees south to be declared a whale sanctuary, as the French propose?
- Is the Indian Ocean sanctuary to be renewed?
- Will the whaling nations, Japan, Norway and Iceland, announce more "scientific" whaling programmes for next year?
- Other issues likely to arise include killing methods, and questions about small cetaceans - dolphins and porpoises - where the IWC's competence is arguable.

WHALES give birth to a single calf, and their reproduction rate is slow, so populations drastically reduced in a few years by high-technology hunting could take decades to recover. Without protection, they may not recover at all (Michael McCarthy writes).

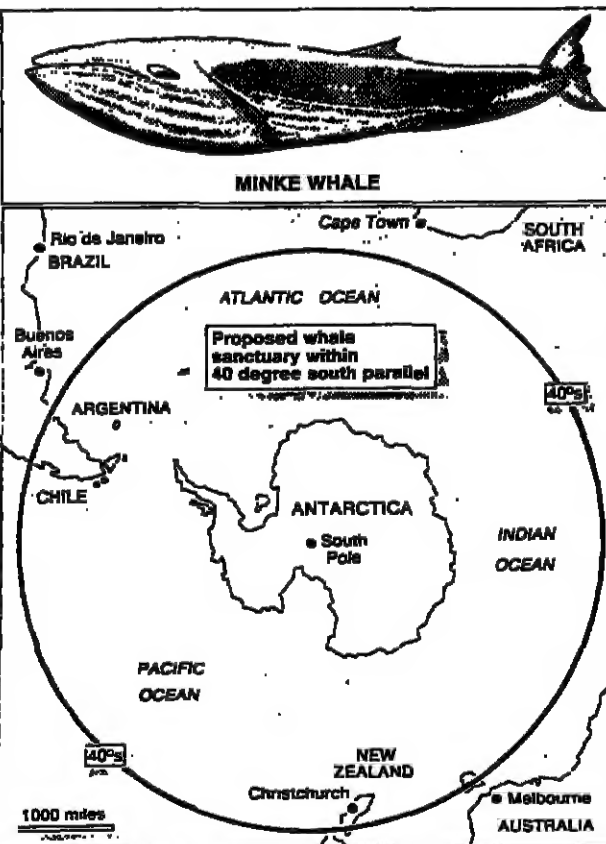
The danger is compounded by the fact that it is difficult to count whales in the ocean and the population can easily be over-estimated. Counting is done by survey ships. A statistical estimate of a total population in a given area is projected from the number of animals actually seen.

A whale stock and its reproduction rate are then subject to 100 years of computer-simulated hunting. The procedure was adopted in principle at the IWC's meeting last year, but it is still being refined. It has a safety

level of 54 per cent of a given initial stock; if numbers were reduced below this level, hunting would cease and whales would be protected. It aims at a maximum sustainable yield of 72 per cent of the stock. That means that a quarter of the initial number of animals could be taken off and the stock could still, in theory, sustain itself.

But as New Zealand pointed out in Reykjavik last year, this means that 100,000 of the 400,000 estimated adult, huntable minke in the south Atlantic could be killed. Whether this is a "sustainable" number or not, in political terms it would be unacceptable for much of the world.

Britain believes that this system may be impossible to police effectively and that killing methods are still too inhumane to be permitted.



Smallest species faces biggest risk

By OUR ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

MINKE whales, found off the coast of Britain as well as in the waters of the proposed Antarctic sanctuary, are in the firing line simply because as the smallest of the great whale species they have been least hunted and therefore remain most numerous.

The other great whales have been savagely depleted, with whalers hunting the largest animals first, and moving to smaller prey as each species started to disappear. The process began with the blue whale, at up to 90ft long the largest animal on Earth. Tens of thousands were slaughtered each year between the wars, in a hunt in which Britain played a prominent role. Scientists believe that the blue whale population in the southern oceans, at fewer than one thousand individuals, is less than 1 per

cent of the original, although protected for 25 years, it remains one of the most endangered animals on earth.

When blue whales started to disappear, the great whales moved on to the next animal down in size, the fin whale; that too suffered a population crash, and its remaining numbers are now thought to be about 5 per cent of the original stock.

The same thing happened with the next one down, the humpback, and then the next, the sei whale, while the sperm whale suffered a similar fate.

The minke is the last great whale whose stocks are relatively untouched. There are between 30,000 and 80,000 animals in the North Atlantic, as well as the 750,000 thought to inhabit the southern oceans.

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Families discover paths to freedom

By TIM JONES

CITY centres were a good proposition for fleeing the madding crowd yesterday as the countryside from Hadrian's Wall to the Lizard was being tramped by thousands of ramblers taking part in a nationwide family day.

This was no great confrontation of the "Forbidden Britain" variety, where members of the Ramblers' Association clash with owners of grouse moors or farmers who have ploughed up paths for potatoes. Rather, it was designed partly to introduce children to maps, compasses and the delights of the countryside.

Catharine Cunningham, the association's assistant director, said: "With the recession now affecting so many people, family rambling day is more important than ever this year. It introduces families to a most enjoyable new pastime which is

really cheap and open to every age group. It is fun and it is free."

At Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire, brown owl Joan James and her brownie pack were joined by Sir John Johnson, chairman of the Countryside Commission, which has set itself the task of clearing 120,000 miles of footpaths by the end of the decade. For Sir John, former British High Commissioner to Kenya, who lists his recreations in *Who's Who* as "climbing and reaching remote places" the three-mile stroll through well ordered fields did not present the ultimate challenge.

The brownies, however, were excited by the great adventure and were backpacking enough crisps and pop to keep a small army going. Mind you, they had an ulterior motive: they were after their walking badges.

BA takes stake in German market

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Airways' strategy of buying big stakes in domestic rivals of Europe's state-owned airlines takes off today when Deutsche BA begins scheduled services from Berlin.

German permits enabling the new airline to start operations with Boeing 737 jets arrived on Saturday after three months of negotiations. BA and other foreign airlines were told that they would have to close their Berlin base - opened after the war to maintain air links with the besieged city - in response to German reunification. After meeting resistance from Lufthansa, the German government and the EC to a number of proposals for keeping the services going, BA eventually bought 49 per cent of the small domestic airline Delta Air. The airline is based in Friedrich-

shaven and uses nine turbo-prop commuter aircraft to link regional cities.

The other 51 per cent is owned by a consortium of German banks. The airline was renamed Deutsche BA and given a new colour scheme using the colours of the German flag.

The first flights are between Berlin and Munich and Stuttgart. The new company will be managed and crewed by Germans and will initially concentrate on internal services although there are plans to expand services to include international destinations.

The deal falls outside the proposed European liberalisation package signed in Luxembourg last week and Deutsche BA will be subject to the same restrictions as any other airline that tries to extend its operations to other countries.

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On long journeys the off-landers can become wearisome. Noise levels are greater and characteristically the steering demands constant attention to stop the car wandering.

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In the top of the range 960 estate, cruise control is standard and the 24 valve 3-litre engine is smoothness itself.

The Observer described it as "a timeless cruiser with high levels of comfort and refinement."

The Volvo estate isn't the kind of car you have to at home when you're going to the ball. Despite its practicality, the Volvo estate has a ed look and feel. It drives like a saloon or as one



enthusiastic road report stated "on motorways the Volvo rode like a limousine."

Inside the analogy holds good, too. On the 960 24 valve, for example, electric seats, electronic climate control and leather are all standard.

Don't be scared by the size either. The Volvo estate has a turning circle of just 32 ft. (smaller than that of a Volkswagen Golf), and if you want to fill all that space with Mahler rather than luggage, a tailor-made stereo radio cassette comes as standard.

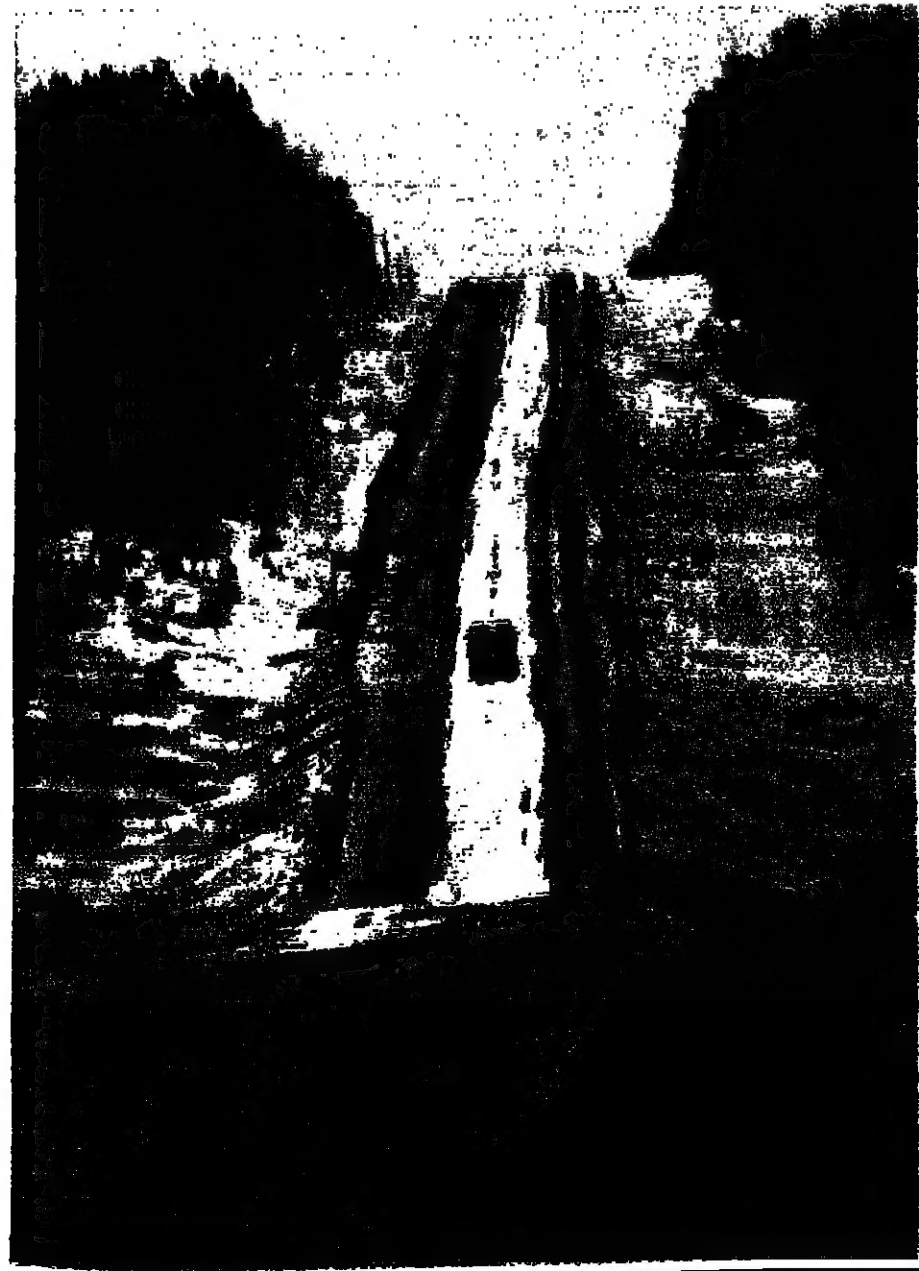
There's a whole world out there beyond the garden centre and school gates and what better car to take you there than a Volvo estate.

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ABS brakes, for instance, are standard on all 940 models, while the 960 automatic also has a 'winter mode' that modifies the gear changes for snow and ice.

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Sex offenders 'free to view pornography in prisons'



Clarke: offenders sent to specialist jails

A WIDE range of pornography, including material showing acts of violence against women and children, is available in prisons, according to a report published today.

In one prison, it says, inmates had obtained a magazine which included pictures of a woman being raped while workers at another jail complained to the governor about the contents of video films being shown to segregated sex offenders. One film depicted a woman being abused and asking for more violence.

Malcolm Cowburn, author of the report on pornography in prisons in England and Wales, said: "The presence of all kinds of pornography within the institutions is accepted as inevitable." He added that although the prison department had powers to control the amount of pornography, whether the authorities wished to do so was not clear.

Mr Cowburn's report is one of

A report questions whether authorities want to control the availability of obscene material in Britain's jails, Richard Ford writes

several in a booklet published by the Prison Reform Trust, *Beyond Containment*, which studies how the prison system is trying to treat sex offenders. The number of sex offenders given immediate custodial sentences increased from 1,500 to 2,400 between 1979 and 1989. Two years ago, the prison service held 3,166 offenders whose primary conviction was for a sexual offence.

Kenneth Clarke, home secretary, has launched a strategy to concentrate sex offenders in certain prisons, which will develop specialist skills to tackle their behaviour. The trust claims today that the programme may fail because of a lack of clear policy direction and the failure to in-

crease resources, including staff levels, for sex offender treatment. In his report, Mr Cowburn called on prison officers to challenge the presence of pornography and said its existence in jails could not be ignored because that would reinforce the values of the sex offender.

Mr Cowburn, a Nottingham probation officer who carried out research in jails, said: "If the prison service wishes to focus a intention on helping sex offenders not to reoffend, it cannot ignore sexism and pornography within the institutions in which it intends to work with sex offenders."

The report says that he found many instances of intimidatory and sexist behaviour towards male

prison staff and that before introducing restrictions on pornography in jails, staff attitudes had to change. One woman told him that she received many comments about her appearance and colleagues asked in front of prisoners whether she wore tights or stockings.

"The combination of the availability of pornography and sexism had a negative effect on women prison workers. Male workers, however, were generally more complacent about the presence of pornography," Mr Cowburn said.

Research had shown that heightened feelings of hostility to women occurred after reading or viewing pornography, the report said. Concentrating exclusively on the question of whether pornography directly contributed to sexual violence failed to acknowledge its brutalising effect.

Under government regulations, prison governors have authority to

prevent the display of "offensive" material in jails but it is not clear whether the rules apply to individual cells rather than offices and common areas.

Adam Sampson, of the Prison Reform Trust, called for clearer Home Office guidance on the pornography in jails but said it would be difficult to stop material available in shops from being allowed in jails. "It is alarming that prisoners including those convicted of sexual offences can see magazines portraying women in a degrading light. The whole prison system tends to reinforce macho attitudes towards women and children and the availability of pornography makes it worse," he said.

Independent watchdogs at Wandsworth prison have warned the Home Office that mistakes which led to the suicide of a mentally disturbed prisoner last year could be repeated unless recommendations made by an enquiry

are taken up by the medical section of the prison department (Stewart Trender writes).

The warning was issued in the latest report of the board of visitors for the prison and follows the death last year of Delroy Macknight, 29, who cut his throat with glass from the broken window of his cell. The dead man, diagnosed as an acute paranoid schizophrenic, had been transferred from Highpoint prison in Sussex to Wandsworth. The medical background was not appreciated at Wandsworth and he was locked up unsupervised for 23 hours a day.

The death, which resulted in a verdict of "lack of care" from an inquest, led to an investigation by a working group within the prison department. Angela Rumbold, then Home Office minister, considered the findings so important that she placed them in the Commons library.

Brain tumour drug earns British team \$1.5m deal

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE Cancer Research Campaign has struck a deal with an American drug company to develop and market a new compound that has shown exciting potential in treating brain tumours.

The drug, Temozolomide, was discovered by Malcolm Stevens at Aston University. The Schering-Plough company has made an initial payment of \$1.5 million (£800,000) to the Cancer Research Campaign for rights to the drug, and if it proves a big success it could earn the campaign up to £20 million a year once in full production.

Gordon McVie, scientific director of the campaign, says that the results so far have been astonishing. "Two patients who came into hospital on stretchers got up and walked after taking the drug. In other cases, we have seen enormous shrinkage of the tumours, and in brain tumours where we haven't had any effective drugs before that is extraordinary."

The drug works by interfering with a molecular process specific to tumour cells. A

small molecule can be taken by mouth and has been designed so that it is more likely to reach the brain than earlier compounds. Side-effects are relatively minor and can be controlled. Of 46 patients treated with the drug at Charing Cross Hospital in west London, half have shown shrinkage of brain tumours.

One of those is Theresa Bouze, 40, who had lost her speech, co-ordination and memory because of a brain tumour. When she started taking Temozolomide nine months ago, there was nothing else conventional therapy could do for her. Surgery and radiotherapy had failed to eradicate the cancer and she was sent home to make the most of the two months doctors gave her to live.

Today she can walk and speak normally, and brain scans show her tumour has shrunk, though it has not disappeared. "I feel a hundred times better than I did," she says. "I am just so thankful for every day I have now."

The deal with Schering-Plough is designed to bring the drug into production and ensure that, if it is a success,

the campaign, Aston University and Charing Cross Hospital will all benefit. It was negotiated by Sue Foden, managing director of the campaign's technology transfer section. "The initial payment of \$1.5 million will be followed by milestone payments during development amounting to the same figure," she said yesterday. "After that, it will depend on how successful it is. If it sold, say, £100 million worth a year, as some successful cancer drugs do, then the campaign would earn £20 million a year."

Dr Foden offered drug companies worldwide the opportunity to bid for Temozolomide, and Schering-Plough came up with the best offer. One advantage of the deal is that the company's expertise will be applied to manufacturing the drug, something the campaign cannot do.

Although the first trials involved brain tumours, Ed Newlands of Charing Cross Hospital says that it is also effective against malignant melanoma, a form of skin cancer that can be fatal. The drug has not yet been tested against other cancers but Professor McVie is hopeful that it will prove effective against a range, possibly including cancer of the breast.

Methodists question traditions

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

THE Rev Kathleen Richardson, the first woman president of the Methodist Conference, which meets this week in Newcastle upon Tyne, is one sign of the changes in the movement.

The conference will today debate a report that says there are no theological objections to calling God "Mother" and many good reasons for doing so. The report cites prayers where God is described as giving birth and Jesus as a mother hen.

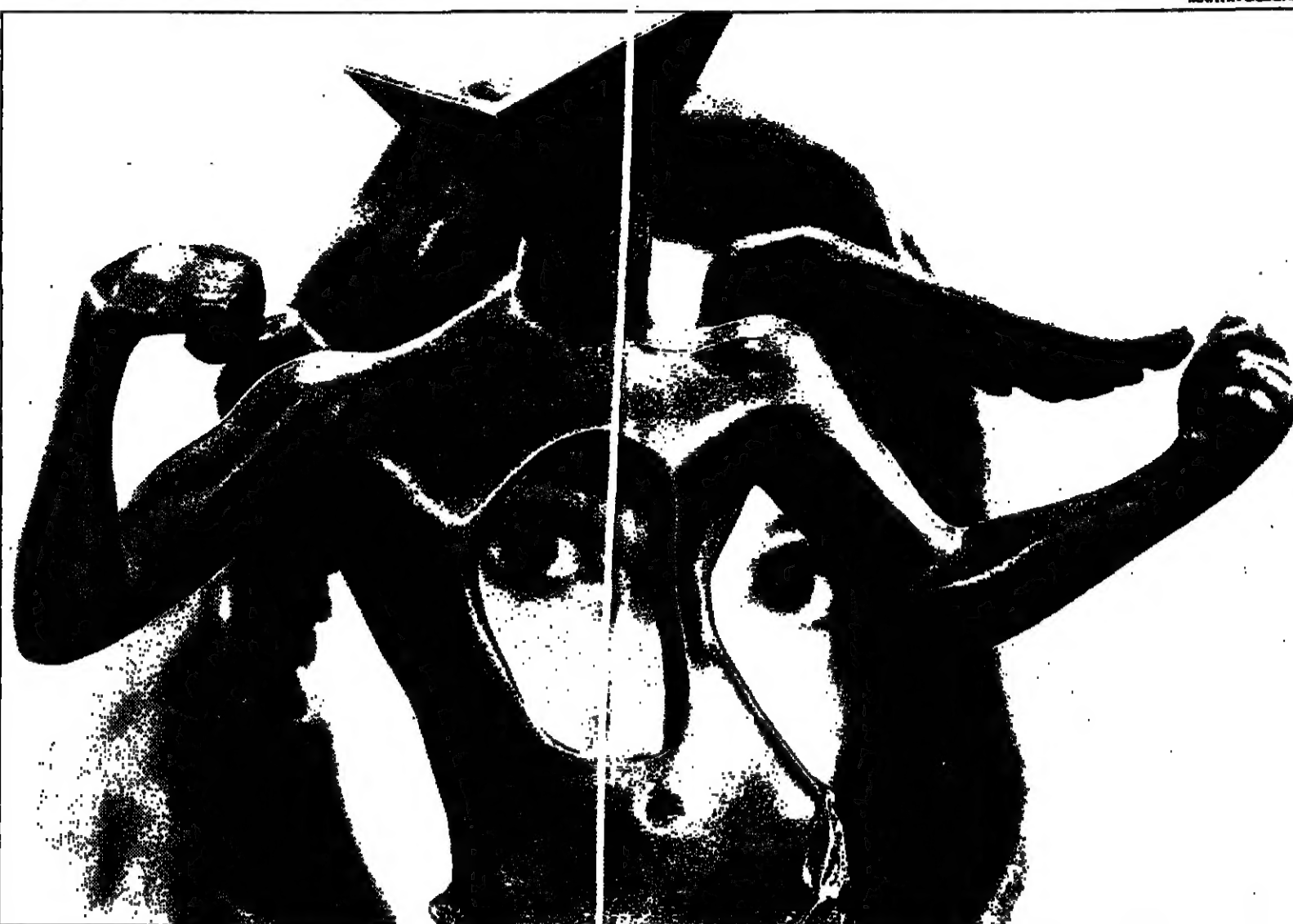
Later this week, the conference will decide whether to allow minor gambling such as raffles in church halls, and whether to allow a licensed bar at Southlands College, southwest London, a Methodist-owned foundation.

Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, remains a celebrated hymn writer, and his works are sung in churches of many denominations. The conference this week is expected to set up a review of its music and hymns.

Traditionalists can take heart from a report on family life, which unequivocally restates the traditional Christian approach to marriage. They will also be relieved to learn that the faith and order committee has decided that universalism — which holds that all people will inevitably be saved by God's love — is not Methodist doctrine.

In her inaugural address, Mrs Richardson said: "Too often our understanding of religious life has been formed by images of renunciation — of sex, money, power — and by preaching self-denial. We have had enough of the 'clinging to the rock and bleed' spirituality, of the 'if it hurts it must be doing me good' understanding of church life." She called instead for the denial of the attention-seeking ego and of self-importance.

Court, page 16



Angelic offering: Salvador Dalí's *L'Ange Surréaliste*, 27 1/4 in high in bronze, may fetch up to £5,000 at Christie's tonight

Prices fall as auction houses chase bidders

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Saleroom Correspondent

TWO years ago, a painting by Van Gogh sold for £49.7 million. Tomorrow, another work by him is being offered in London with the modest estimate of £600,000. *Nature Morte, Branche d'Amandier* is admittedly small, at 9 1/4 in by 7 1/4 in, but it is highly attractive. Having been a gift from the artist to his sister, it is also being offered with a strong provenance. Sotheby's best offering at their Impressionist sale tomorrow evening, they hope that the low estimate will encourage interest in the market.

Christie's is also hoping to attract lovers of Impressionism and the best painting to come under the hammer in a sale at King Street tonight is a view of Charing Cross Bridge by Monet, estimated at £2 million to £2.5 million.

The sale also features a recently rediscovered and previously unpublished preparatory study for Cézanne's *Les Grandes Baigneuses*, now in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which is expected to make between £400,000 and £600,000.

A pen and ink garden study by Van Gogh, one of ten made in and around the asylum at St Remy in 1889, is for sale with *La Famille des Centaures Marsupiaux* by the Surrealist Salvador Dalí.



Small wonder: Van Gogh's *Nature Morte, Branche d'Amandier* a £600,000 estimate

Both works have a £400,000 to £600,000 estimate.

One of Dalí's sculptures is on offer in a kindred, though much less expensive, sale at the firm's middle-market branch in South Kensington. *L'Ange Surréaliste* is on offer at £3,000 to £5,000 in a sale of paintings, drawings and

sculpture with prices ranging between £1,500 and £20,000.

Sotheby's campaign to woo back the buyers is being orchestrated by the company's new American managing director, Rt ger Faxon.

He describes the sale as "very skilled and well-constructed, even if the actual low

estimate value is significantly lower than it would have been in the past". The paintings are fresh on the market and of high quality, he says.

Headhunted from Hollywood two years ago, where he was a film executive, Mr Faxon says he is used to seeing markets change. But the dramatic collapse of the Impressionist market within months of him being offered a job at Sotheby's was something new to him. Having spent ten months at the company's New York office, he came to London ten months ago and was promoted to his present job three weeks ago.

The move placed him above the previous managing director, Tim Llewellyn, and sent waves of apprehension around an already demoralised staff. Many believed they had already been working to capacity during the recession.

Mr Faxon denied having an aggressive management style but said: "In the delegation of authority, there are strings attached. I hold people responsible. If we don't achieve our goals, we have to understand whether it is the fault of the person in question or something outside their control."

Asked whether buyers have been alienated by what they now perceive to have been market hype, fuelled by business practices such as

Sotheby's offering guarantees to sellers and loans to buyers, he agrees that buyers "are not as trusting of the market as they were three years ago". But Mr Faxon denies that customers have been alienated by the company's business practices. No paintings at next week's sale are guaranteed, he said.

Other offerings tomorrow will include Monet's *Les Alpes vues du Cap d'Antibes*, estimated at £600,000 to £800,000 and from a private Swiss collection; a slight oil painting of a girl by Renoir at £400,000 to £500,000 and Picasso's *Sylvette*, a portrait made from a cut-out sheet of metal, at £650,000.

When the Picasso last appeared at auction in 1984, it fetched £132,000, so next week's sale should entail a substantial profit for its owner. But on the whole, the estimates compare pathetically with the prices of three years ago at the sale of Impressionist paintings from the British Rail Pension Fund's collection when Renoir's *La Promenade* sold for £10.3 million and a Blue Period Picasso £3.9 million.

One question is whether Impressionism will make a comeback, or whether it is permanently relegated to the status of yesterday's news.

Diary, page 14
Business News, page 19

Scots honour Queen Margaret, their first European

The Hungarian-born wife of a Scottish king had a remarkable influence over the history of his country and Europe, Kerry Gill writes

England in 1057, but fled with a small retinue to Scotland after the Norman Conquest. Some historians believe that a storm might have caused her party to seek refuge at the court of Malcolm III, "Canmore", and that it was intending to return to Hungary. She met the king, who fell in love with her.

It is claimed that her influence on European history was as great as that of Edward the Confessor, St Stephen of Hungary and Otto I of Germany. She was a driving force in turning Scotland into a truly European and outward-looking nation.

Professor Barrow, chairman of the committee organising the "St Margaret 900" celebrations, said

many British historians, particularly the Scots, had jumped to the erroneous conclusion that Margaret exercised a vast, alien English influence north of the border. "This, of course, is a complete load of rubbish," he said. "Her background was Hungarian-German."

Margaret was a true European in the modern sense. She corresponded with Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Theobald of Etampes, and was proficient in at least three languages. "Her influence on Scotland was primarily in giving the country a much sharper awareness of the totality of Christian Europe," Professor Barrow said. Her marriage to Mal-

canmore helped the king's work of national improvement, religious and cultural. Turgot, the Bishop of St Andrews who died in 1115, said: "She made the king himself very readily inclined to works of justice, mercy, alms and other virtues." Each morning she fed nine orphans before entering the Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle to provide food from the royal household for 300 poor.

Her legacies include the chapel in Edinburgh Castle which bears her name, the founding of the toll-free Queen's Ferry across the River Forth and Dunfermline Abbey. She was canonised in 1260. The celebrations will end with a service on St Margaret's Feast Day at St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral in Edinburgh. In June, there will be a re-enactment of the Battle of Alnwick, where Malcolm was killed.



Queen Margaret: fed orphans each morning in Edinburgh

Diary, page 14

Legal fees prove a costly surprise

Almost four out of five people see the law as "a bit of a mystery" and few have any idea about solicitors' fees, according to a report published yesterday.

The Gallup survey of 1,000 people for the insurance group General Accident found that nearly 60 per cent underestimated what they would be charged. A further 30 per cent had no idea of solicitors' usual hourly rates, which the group says range from £60 to £150.

Jean Grace, of General Accident's legal helpline, said: "We found that most people who wanted legal advice but didn't take it were put off by the cost."

People aged 16 to 24 said they used solicitors mostly for police matters (29 per cent) and for private actions (30 per cent), although 13 per cent said they used them for divorce matters. For all ages, house buying and selling was the main reason for visiting a solicitor (69 per cent).

Farmers help save rare bird

Farmers in Cambridgeshire are to be offered poplar trees in a planting scheme aimed at saving the rare golden oriole. Only 30 pairs of the brightly yellow thrush-like bird, from Africa, breed in Britain and seven pairs are in the Cambridgeshire fenslands.

The bird is under threat because not enough poplars are being planted to replace mature trees being felled in its breeding grounds. Cambridgeshire County Council will supply £40,000 of trees and bushes to landowners.

River deaths

Two soldiers who drowned in a river at Saltersmarine, co. Tyrone, while on patrol were named as Richard Coulson of Tyne and Wear, and Peter Sullivan, of Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland. They were both 25 and lance corporals in The Parachute Regiment.

Dinosaur egg

The fossilised egg of a sauropod dinosaur, *Melosaurus*, is expected to fetch £5,000 to £7,000 at Christie's, London, next month. The 18.2cm egg, estimated to be 70 million years old, was found at Aix-en-Provence.

Crash enquiry

Civil Aviation Authority investigators began examining the wreckage of a Spitfire that crashed at the Woodford air show, Cheshire, on Saturday killing the aircraft's pilot and owner, David Moore, 47, of Gloucestershire.

Libel writ

The Aga Khan has issued a writ for libel damages against Express newspapers and the *Daily Express* columnist Ross Benson over a gossip column story on the BCCI collapse.

Man trapped

Ken Halliday, 53, of Swindon, died in hospital after becoming trapped from the waist down in a stacking machine at Courtaulds Films.

Drug raids

Seventeen people were held after several raids by drug squad police in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Bond winners

The weekly premium bond prize winners are: £100,000, number SSF 390937, who lives in Wakefield (value of holding, £180,550,000, 10K1, 547922; Stockport (£267); £25,000, 13PW 090839, Salford (£117).

UN to give Somalis tent refuge

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African leaders seek reopening of talks

Mandela pressed by OAU to meet Botha

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG AND SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

NELSON Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, and P.W. Botha, the South African foreign minister, are likely to meet during the Organisation of African Unity summit, under pressure from other African countries to reopen talks on the future of constitutional reform in South Africa.

The invitation to Mr Botha to visit the Senegalese capital, Dakar, where the summit opens today reflects a significant change in the way African countries conduct foreign affairs with South Africa. Previously, they would have taken the lead from Mr Mandela and put a hold on contacts with Pretoria.

One West African ambassador said: "We are now much more comfortable with making direct contacts with the South African government and that means that we are also prepared to make up our own policy — no matter how much we might respect the ANC and Mandela."

The move is one of several international attempts to bring the South African government and the ANC back to the constitution negotiating table, on the eve of the mass funeral today of 35 vic-

tims of the massacre in Boipatong township.

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, has agreed to visit the country to consult all main parties and was yesterday expected to meet Mr Mandela. The ANC leader is expected to ask Dr Boutros Ghali to send a monitoring group, similar to those used in Angola and Namibia, to South Africa.

Mr Botha and Roelf Meyer, the constitutional development minister, returned home yesterday from Abuja, the Nigerian capital, where in addition to meeting Dr Boutros Ghali they briefed President Babangida of Nigeria, the outgoing president of the OAU.

At the same time the European Community has joined calls for a resumption of negotiations. Following their two-day meeting in Lisbon, EC leaders said it was vital for talks to resume on the setting up of a transitional government and a non-racial constitution. They noted Pretoria's new willingness to allow foreign observers to join an investigation into the Boipatong massacre. A Commonwealth monitoring

role has also been proposed. Chief Ameka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth secretary-general, is expected to arrive in South Africa this week.

The ANC has called for a nationwide day of mourning to mark today's mass funeral and President de Klerk said government workers would be given time off to attend services and has urged the private sector to do the same.

Ironically, the Boipatong victims will be buried in a cemetery in Sharpeville, where in 1961 police shot dead 69 people. The service will be conducted by the Rev Frank Chikane, the secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu will preach.

Police say they may be close to a breakthrough in their investigations into the massacre. A spokesman said a resident of the Kwamadala hostel had made a statement to a local magistrate and revealed details of a battle plan drawn up by members of a Zulu impi living in the hostel.



Ancient and modern: an African National Congress supporter in sunglasses and cap brandishing shield and spear at an ANC rally near Johannesburg

PEOPLE

Perot chooses a low-key birthday

The Texas tycoon Ross Perot celebrated his 62nd birthday by telephoning supporters who staged rallies in several states but spent the day out of the limelight, leaving only guesses about when he will make his presidential candidacy official. There had been speculation that Perot would declare his candidacy on Saturday because over the years he has tied big events in his life to his birthday. But last week he said that he wanted to select a vice-presidential running mate and get his name on the ballot in more states before making his candidacy official.

Brazil's business leaders are showing concern that the left-leaning vice-president, Iamar Franco, 61, could take over if the embattled president, Fernando Collor de Mello, is forced to step down by a corruption scandal.

Actor Lloyd Bridges, 79, has left hospital "in excellent shape" after a successful minor heart operation to clear a blocked artery.

Ion Iliescu, the president of Romania, will again run for office in general elections on September 27. He will be the candidate of the Democratic National Salvation Front, which split from the National Salvation Front in April. Reformists who are now dominating the parent party back Petre Roman, the former prime minister and the present chairman of the National Salvation Front.

Interview magazine is going under wraps for its July issue to conceal the cover showing the actress Drew Barrymore stretched out nude on a lawn. *Vanity Fair* used a similar cover last year when its cover displayed a pregnant Demi Moore in the nude.

Horror author Stephen King is having a tough time keeping a low profile in Maine. Last year, a Texan broke into his home claiming King had plagiarized a character for his book *Misery*. Now, Steven Lightholt, 28, a Californian, is claiming that King killed the former Beatle, John Lennon.

UN to give Somalis tent refuge

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU

AS THE first relief aid reached 4,000 starving Somali boat refugees on the scorching beaches of the Yemen at the weekend, a United Nations official was hopeful a tragedy would be averted.

Comparing their plight to that of the Vietnamese boat people in the 1970s, he gave a warning of a disaster if the international community does not tackle the root of the problem in Somalia. The situation has improved since Friday and there have been no deaths in the past two days, Pamela Morgene, of the UN High Commission for Refugees responsible for the Middle East and North Africa, said. "The Yemeni authorities are now very positive and we are looking for ways with them to set up a permanent camp," Mr Morgene said.

Thousands of tents which once sheltered Kurdish refugees from the cold in northern Iraq were on their way to protect the Somali refugees from the sun. Four thousand refugees, who fled civil war and famine in their homeland, are packed into a makeshift camp on the beach near Aden, where temperatures in the shade soar to 50°C. Sixty people died from hunger on board the first refugee ship. Another 90 desperate refugees died after jumping from the freighter to swim the 400 yards to shore.

Malawians 'forced to vote'

FROM REUTER IN HARARE

MALAWI'S leading opposition group said yesterday that government supporters had been forcing people to vote in the parliamentary election at the weekend, undermining a boycott that it organised in opposition to years of one-party rule.

"We understand there is gross intimidation... people are being forced to vote," said a Harare-based official of the Interim Committee for a Democratic Alliance on Saturday. Malawi's state-run radio reported late on Friday that long queues of people had "fought their way" to cast their votes, adding that some were unable to vote for reasons including work and congestion at polling stations.

"To such people, we say they have the whole day to themselves tomorrow [Saturday]," the radio was quoted by the BBC as saying.

The opposition alliance, which was formed in Zambia this year by mostly exiled government opponents to fight for multiparty democracy, said that most people had stayed away from the two-day elections on Friday. An official said that after this snub President Banda's officials and unruly supporters "are dragging our people to vote". Malawian government officials were unavailable for comment.

Rhinos to be shot in aid of conservation

Hunting is helping Natal herds, writes Michael Hamlyn from Hluhluwe

SIX white rhinoceroses have been sold at a hotel in Hluhluwe, Natal, just outside the oldest game reserve in Africa. But these six — not, it has to be admitted, in the first flush of ebullient rhino youth — are not going to be conserved. Quite the opposite: they are going to be shot.

The six have been sold to four private game parks elsewhere in South Africa where rich American tourists will be charged up to \$50,000 (£27,800) for the privilege of hunting one and killing it. They will take the head for a wall trophy, and no doubt the feet for wastepaper baskets and the tail for a fancy whip.

The rest will be left to rot. But the shooting of these animals from an endangered species is a measure of how far their conservation has gone and emphasises the role that can be played in conservation by hunters. "The hunting fraternity is a large body," Mark Cooke, the chief conservator at Hluhluwe, said. "It makes it viable for private landowners to go into game reserves."

There is also an irony that the rhinoceros herds are now in more imminent danger than ever from poachers for their valuable

horn. Ten white rhinos have been killed in the Natal parks in the past 18 months. One was killed this year and, thanks to energetic police action, the killers and the man who was in possession of the horn have been arrested.

The Natal rhinos are in pretty good shape. There are 1,600 white rhinos in the Umfolozi/Hluhluwe complex of parks, and the rarer black rhino now numbers 300 and is rising. Since the start of conservation here, the rhino has been such a success story that 35 white rhinos were put up for auction at the game sale — not for trophy purposes, but for breeding. They fetched much lower prices this year than on previous occasions, demonstrating the success that Natal has had in redistributing its stocks. While the breeding rhinos fetched about 26,500 rand (£5,300) each, the excess males were withdrawn from the auction when the bidding failed to reach 30,000 rand.

Elsewhere, things are not going so well. In Swaziland, where rhinos are being decimated in an attempt to protect them from poachers, rhinos are now down to a total of a mere 13.

DEEP SLEEP THERAPY WAS SO EFFECTIVE THESE PATIENTS NEVER WOKE UP.

"DEEP SLEEP": In 1963 an Australian doctor began a brutal medical regime.

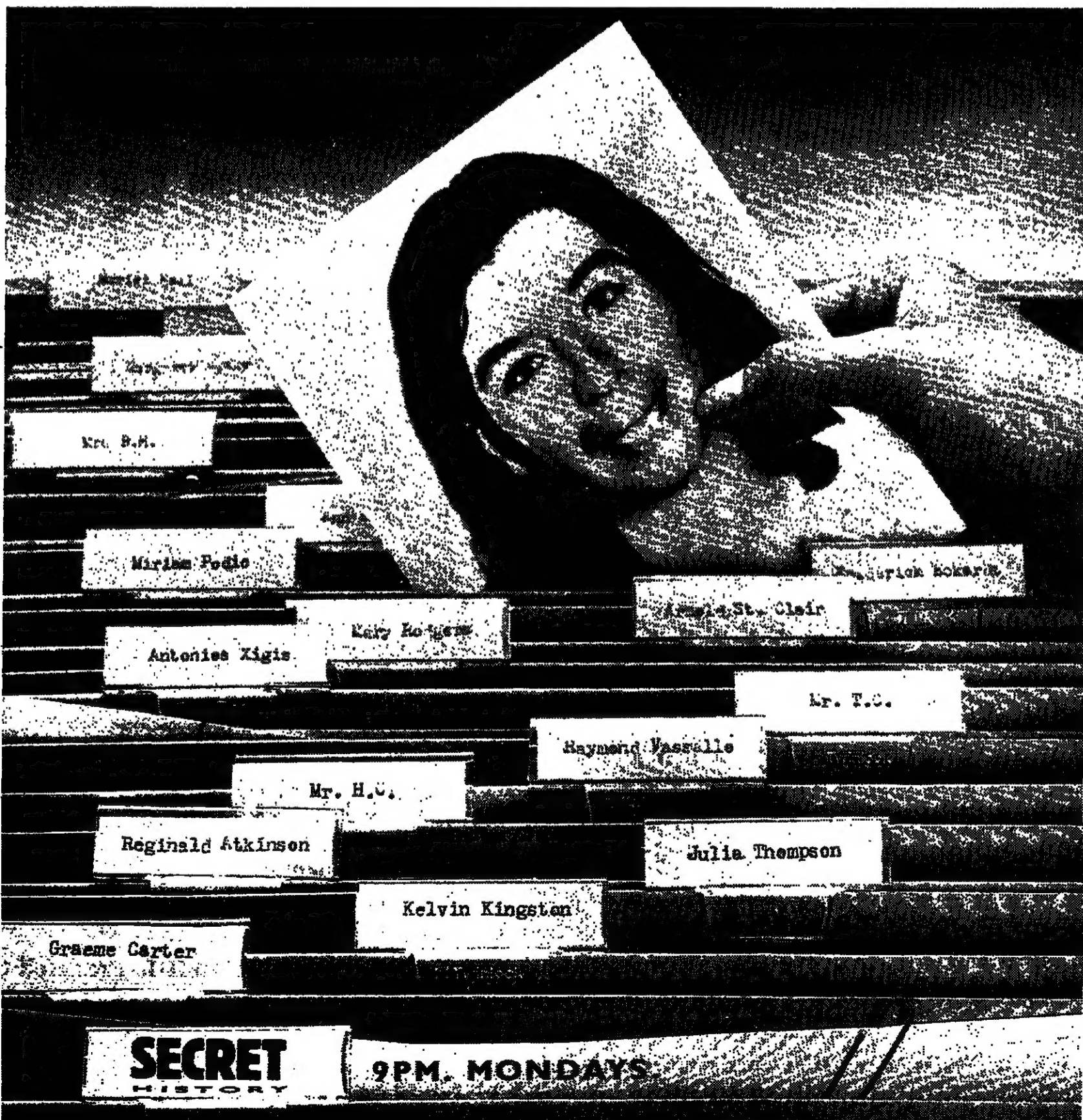
Patients were kept unconscious for weeks at a time with massive doses of drugs. Many were then subjected to daily electro-convulsive treatment, without their consent.

Deep Sleep was often used to treat minor cases of anxiety and depression but left at least 70 patients dead and hundreds more brain-damaged.

Tonight, the award-winning series Secret History returns to uncover the truth about shocking events that, over time, have been

obsured by a welter of hearsay and propaganda.

In this evening's programme we expose the gross negligence that surrounded Deep Sleep Therapy and reveal why the authorities took 15 years to wake up to its true horror.



SECRET HISTORY

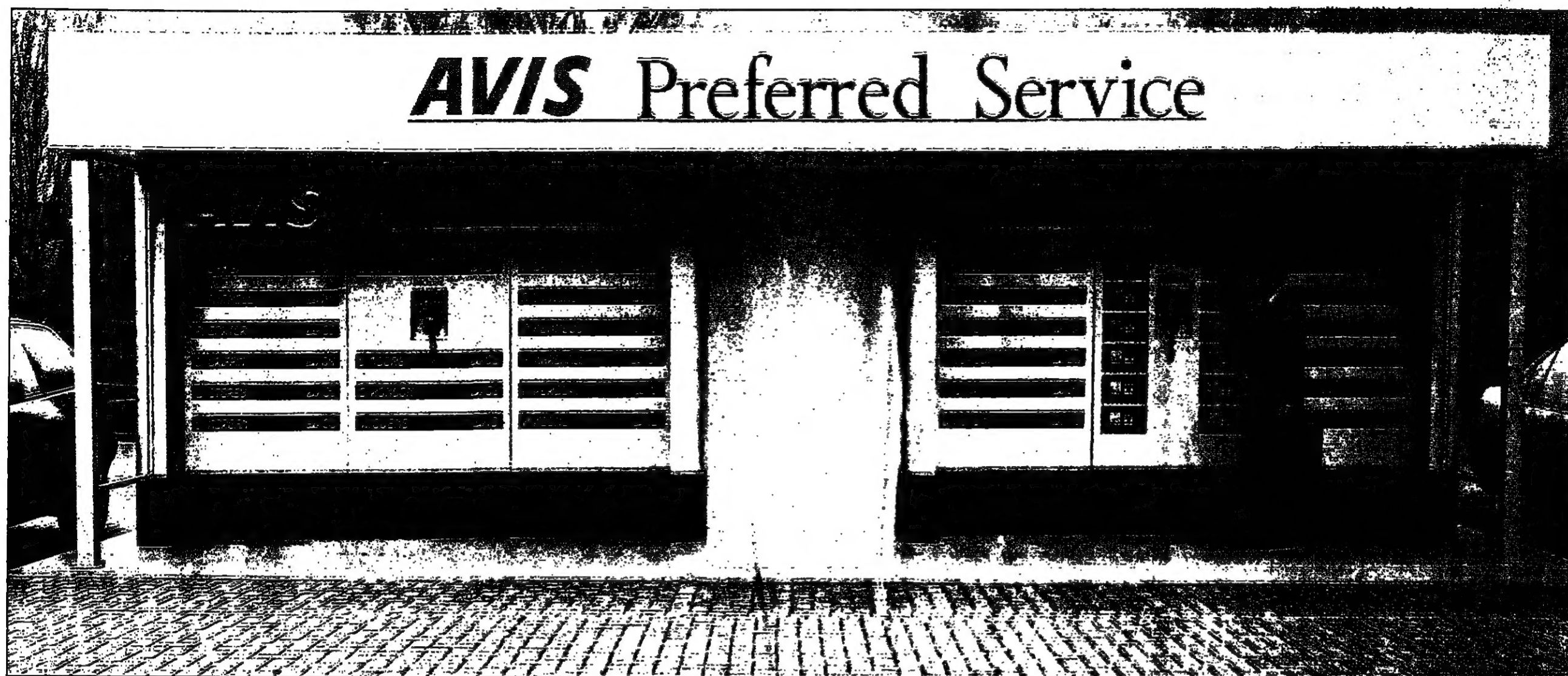
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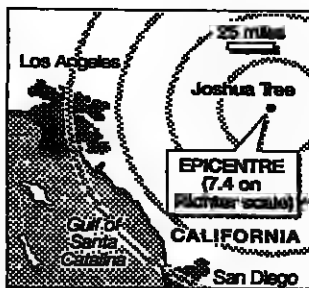
California has worst quake for 40 years

FROM WILLIAM CASH IN LOS ANGELES

SOUTHERN California was jolted awake at 4.58am yesterday by an earthquake measuring 7.4 on the Richter scale. A child was killed, many people were injured, and there was much damage in the worst earthquake in the state for 40 years.

The epicentre of the 35-second quake was outside the small town of Joshua Tree near Palm Springs, 130 miles east of Los Angeles, which experienced a quake measuring 6.1 on April 22 this year. Seismologists at the Caltech geological laboratory said that the shock waves yesterday were felt from Las Vegas to San Diego and further quakes were to be expected over the next 24 hours.

Dr Steve Bryant said: "This is a very major earthquake



and we can expect a lot of damage. It is not the big one, but it is a good test for those waiting for the day that LA caves in."

At 8.01am, a second earthquake caused buildings in central Los Angeles to sway: it had a reading of just over 7 on the Richter scale. Live television broadcasts were in-

terrupted as studio lights and cameras wobbled, and coffee cups spilt on studio sets.

The National Earthquake Centre in Colorado said that the earthquake was stronger than that in San Francisco in 1989 which killed 63 people and caused damaged estimated at up to \$10 billion (£5.3 billion). The centre added: "It is lucky that the area affected has a low population with an absence of high-rise buildings. Had it been dense urban population, it could have been very serious."

Several dozen injuries, including broken ankles, legs and arms were reported in Joshua Tree. A boy, aged two, died when a chimney collapsed on him.

In Anaheim, 1,000 guests were evacuated from the Disneyland Hotel after large cracks appeared in the concrete structure. A section of the Golden State freeway was closed and there were widespread reports of buckled roads, burnt-out pylons and people cut off from water and electricity.

Twenty-seven thousand people in south central Los Angeles and Westchester, and 15,000 in San Diego county, had their power supplies cut off. Local television told viewers about emergency procedures at 15-minute intervals.

Despite the seriousness of the earthquake, damage estimates were fairly low, with fewer than ten buildings totally destroyed either through fire or structural collapse. However, Californians, who are normally blasé about such tremors, were uncharacteristically alarmed by the prospect of repeated shocks during the rest of the week.

● Anchorage: Mount Spurr, the nearest volcano to this Alaskan city, spewed ash and steam at least five miles into the sky on Saturday. Nobody was hurt. Volcanologists predict further explosions.

Fallout of course, gritty ash from the volcano was reported in small communities in the state's sparsely populated interior, and some air traffic was rerouted. (AP)

Mafia starts hunt for new godfather

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THERE were some notable absences at the funeral of John Gotti Sr, father of the convicted mafia gangster, at the weekend: neither the "Dapper Don" himself, who has just started a life sentence for murder and racketeering in America's harshest prison, nor his brother Gene, serving a 50-year term for heroin trafficking, attended the burial of their father who died last week, aged 85.

Many of the usual suspects were apparently present, including at least two who were not invited. In a non-descript brown car across the street from the James Romanelli-Stephen Funeral Home, men from the Brooklyn district attorney's office took photographs of the friends and family of the Gotti patriarch.

The police and FBI believe that since the incarceration of John Gotti, head of the Gambino crime family since he arranged the execution of his predecessor in 1985, family members have started ad-

ressing the knotty, and usually bloody, question of who should succeed him as the head of the most powerful Mafia clan in America.

James Fox, head of the FBI in New York, believes the clan will be forced to select a new leader. He said: "Whether Gotti wants to or not, the other leaders, the capos, are going to insist he turns loose the rein." The obvious candidate is Gotti's son, John Jr, 27. Police say it was John Jr who orchestrated and paid for the riot which erupted outside the Brooklyn court house after Gotti's sentencing. Primogeniture is rarely observed in Mafia families and the heir-apparent is as loathed by the older family members as his father was feared and adored.

Another candidate is Giuseppe Arcuri, 78, the "underboss" whom FBI sources say was appointed to oversee the family's affairs and enforce Gotti's decisions during his pre-trial imprisonment.



Party alliance: Dorothy LeBlond, President Bush's daughter, and Robert Koch, who were married at Camp David. The groom was until a week ago an aide to Senator Richard Gephardt, a leading Democratic critic of Mr Bush

How Mrs America thrives on a fling

A book on women's adultery is speeding towards the top of the best-seller list, Ben Macintyre writes from New York

ROSS Perot's advisers have been trying to work out why women are less convinced by his charms than men. The answer, if you believe a new book called *The Erotic Silence of the American Wife*, may be his outspoken opposition to adultery. Last month, the Texas presidential hopeful said that he would not knowingly hire anyone who had been unfaithful to their spouse.

But according to Dalma Heyn, editor-in-chief of *Family Health Magazine* and author of the new work on unfaithful women, for many American wives there is nothing better than a little adultery. Ms Heyn has appeared on almost every talk show in America with her controversial book, which is shooting up the best-seller list faster than

you can say "milkman". Although it is almost 20 years since Erica Jong's *Fear of Flying* suggested that women should feel uninhibited about enjoying sex, Ms Heyn's findings have been hailed by feminists as a revolution in female consciousness. Gloria Steinem said: "Neither women nor marriage will ever be the same again."

After talking with hundreds of married women ranging in age from 20 to 70, Ms Heyn reveals that through extramarital excitement her interviewees discovered their genuine

feelings. In hotel rooms booked by the hour and then over lunch in secluded restaurants, she says, the American woman is finding laughter, liberation and eroticism.

But the unintended conclusion of the book seems to be not that American male lovers are particularly romantic, but that husbands are uniformly ghostly often repressive, periodically impotent and supremely boring.

Perhaps the most remarkable finding in the book is that revealed in a 1985 survey by *Woman's*

Day magazine: only half of the 60,000 women interviewed would opt for the same husband if they had the choice, while men are happier with their married lot — or simply better liars.

While almost every woman complained about her husband, most chose to remain married while committing adultery. For many, the thrill of the fling added the necessary spice to keep tired relationships on track.

The other conclusion to be drawn from the book is that the American wife is not so much silent about her erotic life, as extremely talkative — with one interesting exception. The only woman in 304 pages of titillating details who does not reveal adulterous inclinations is the author.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Body of oil chief is found

New York: The body of Sidney Reso, the kidnapped Exxon oil company executive, has been discovered buried in a New Jersey nature reserve (Ben Macintyre writes). Mr Reso, president of Exxon's international division, had been missing since April 29, when his car was found with the engine running at his suburban New York home.

Arthur Seale, a former Exxon security guard, and his wife Irene were arrested on June 19 after ransom demands for more than \$18 million (£9.5 million) were received.

Afghan leader

Kabul: Burhanuddin Rabbani, 50, an Islamic scholar and guerrilla leader, was named president of Afghanistan. He is the second president of the Islamic government of Afghanistan, taking over from Sibghatullah Mojaddidi. (Reuters)

Aids test order

Singapore: Some Singapore insurance firms are demanding blood tests and answers to lifestyle questionnaires from "high-risk" potential Aids victims, including air crews, male hairdressers, models, masseuses and sailors, a company survey shows. (Reuters)

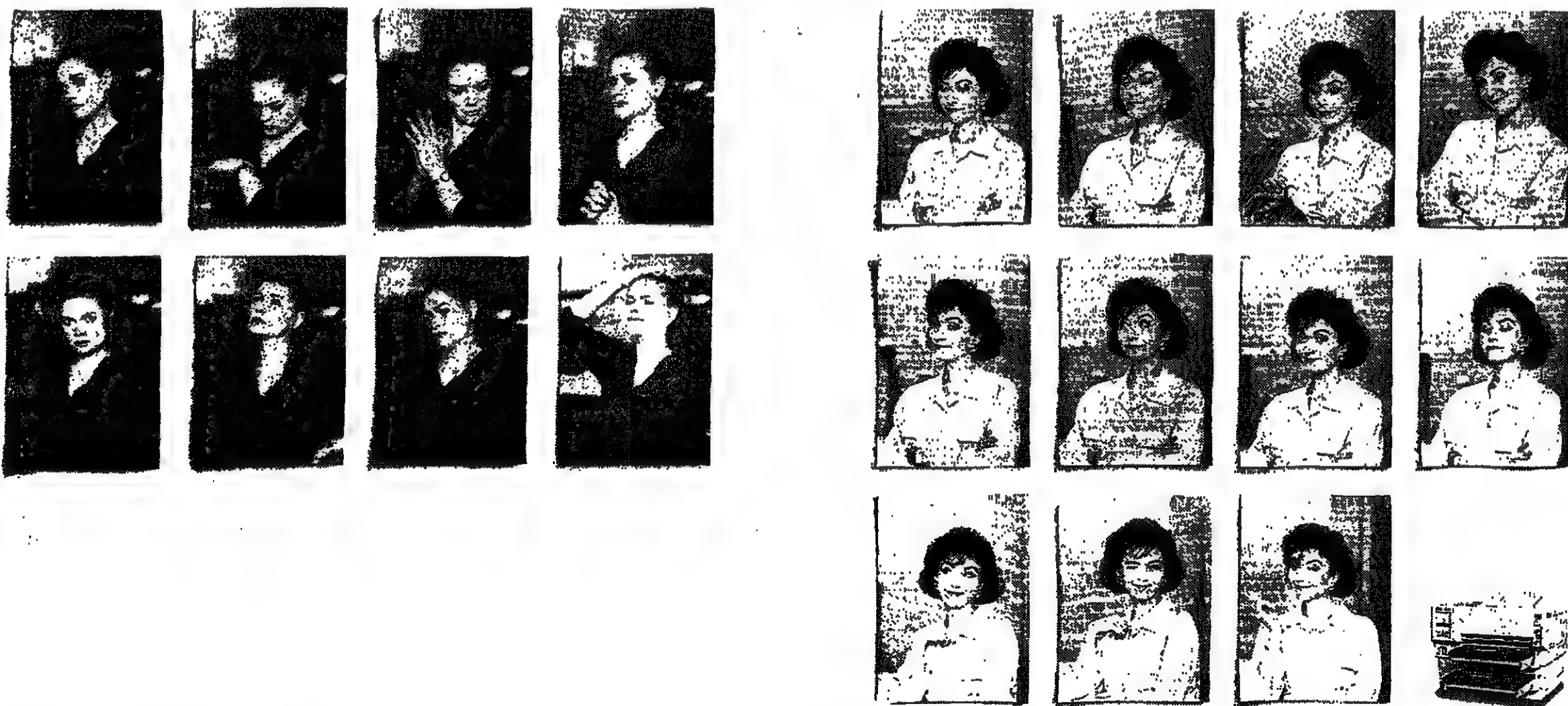
Poll promised

Djibouti: President Gouled Apidon said a referendum leading to multiparty elections would be held in this Red Sea republic in September. He renewed an amnesty offer to northern rebels provided that they laid down their arms. (Reuters)

Buddha backed

Peking: China's Communist rulers have approved the choice of an eight-year-old boy as the reincarnation of one of Tibet's "Living Buddhas", taking up for the first time since 1959 their right to vet Tibetan religious leaders. (Reuters)

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Do-little summit keeps cash and treaty top of agenda

JOHN Major lost three important fights at the EC's Lisbon summit at the weekend, demonstrating more clearly than any of the summiters intended that the political in-fighting over Europe in Britain this autumn will be complicated by money and Maastricht.

Although the painful subject of the Danish rejection of the EC's new treaty was mentioned as little as possible, Saturday's treaty summit exchanges over the Community budget revealed thinly veiled tensions over how the EC should cope with the credibility gap which has opened between governments and voters. The summit settled almost nothing, bundled a bunch of problems into the lap of the UK presidency which starts on Wednesday, and left a bad taste in everyone's mouth.

Over Yugoslavia, Mr Major failed to hinder a neatly

choreographed attempt by President Mitterrand of France to seize the public relations initiative in Sarajevo. Of several setbacks, this was the least important. The government is confident of its scepticism over the humanitarian mission and enjoys covert support from other states nervous that a EC unequipped and underprepared to act as a policeman may founder.

The summit's dominant figures, Mr Major, M Mitterrand, Helmut Kohl of Germany and Jacques Delors, had agreed in advance that the quarrel over the EC budget would not be allowed to get out of hand. Even that modest target almost came unstuck as Felipe Gonzalez of Spain accused Mr Major and Herr Kohl of trying to renege on the commitments they made at Maastricht to boost the sub-

BRITISH PRESIDENCY

George Brock in Lisbon and Robin Oakley assess Britain's legacy after policy rebuffs on the issues of Community enlargement and extra funds for poorer member states

sidies to the Mediterranean members of the EC. A stand-off was arranged. Señor González described the summit as unsatisfactory — Eurospeak for dreadful — and is spoiling for an autumn fight over money and threatening that ratification of the treaty will be in trouble in Spain if the rich countries' cheque is not large enough. His bluff will be called in the end, since if the treaty is not ratified the "cohesion fund" for Spain, Portugal, the Irish Republic and Greece will not exist — but clashes will occur

before any settlement. Mr Major cut any reference to doubling money for the EC's poorest regions out of the statement, but most diplomats would draw the conclusion expressed in the private note which the Commission sends to its offices as soon as a summit finishes.

Although no decisions were taken, it says, "it is likely that the agricultural guideline will be continued and that there will be a doubling by 1997 of the financial effort... in the four poorer member states." Both

these predictions say that UK positions on farm spending and regional subsidy face defeat.

The most serious, and least visible, of Mr Major's reverses occurred over the formula adopted on beginning talks with Scandinavian and alpine states which want to join the EC. Formal talks cannot start until Maastricht is ratified. So the majority of states who remain lukewarm about taking in Austria, Sweden, Finland and Switzerland managed to remove any timetable from their announcement on Saturday. Britain wants to squeeze a handful of new members in during 1995.

One reason why Mr Major is keen to push on with building the wider Community is that the arrival of the comparatively rich European Free Trade Association states will increase the EC's financial pot. The British

also hope that the spectacle of others queuing to join the EC will help to concentrate Danish minds and bring them back on board the Maastricht train. Lisbon showed the other EC states little inclined to help Britain to woo its Euro-sceptics. The "new realism" supposed to have been engendered by the Danish referendum is not all that apparent yet.

M Mitterrand, Herr Kohl and M Delors cannot really make up their minds how to deal with Mr Major, who comes to each European summit with an inconceivable list of requests. In Maastricht, bargaining on the small print of a draft treaty six months ago, he won the points which mattered. In Lisbon, fighting on the more traditional ground of drafting worthy formulas about the EC's direction, he lost. Assuming that the French referendum in the

early autumn backs the treaty, the next stage of EC political and economic union turns on the Commons. If Britain does not ratify, the treaty would be impossible to rescue without a full-scale negotiation between countries which wanted to start again. If MPs do pass the bill, a series of options will be considered for sorting out Denmark.

The one success that Mr Major can claim from Lisbon in terms of his own party problems was on subsidiarity, the doctrine that less should be done by the EC institutions and more by national governments or bodies even closer to the people. The other EC states have agreed that all present EC legislation has to be examined to see that it meets subsidiarity criteria, although not until the end of next year. In the interests of enticing back the Danes and pacifying his own

back benches, Mr Major is calling for the Commission to scrap outmoded directives and to justify anything it plans to do in future against subsidiarity criteria. He wants, and M Delors seems on the point of conceding, a "subsidiarity filter" to stop the Commission taking on tasks in future that are better done by member states or at still lower levels.

However, Mr Major has offered no shopping list of the old directives he wants scrapped. Britain too has to devise some appeal procedure for those member states that wish to challenge on subsidiarity grounds the Commission's insistence that it should take a particular action. On its track record so far, Britain is hardly going to settle for the European court.

Leading article, page 15

Thatcher pledges to vote against Major

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MARGARET Thatcher yesterday made it clear she would vote against the Maastricht treaty in the Lords in contradiction to John Major's insistence that Britain is honour bound to ratify the deal. Maastricht is a treaty too far, she said, and would lead to a massive transfer of power to the European Commission.

As she prepares to return to parliament tomorrow as Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven, the former prime minister gave ministers a taste of her potential to cause trouble from the Conservative benches in the Lords by disagreeing with Mr Major on virtually every aspect of European policy.

She is expected to reiterate her views in the Lords debate on Thursday on the United Kingdom's presidency of the EC, ignoring the standing order that maiden speeches should be unprovocative.

During an interview on TV-am's *Sunday Lady* Thatcher repeated her demand for a referendum on Maastricht and, unlike her successor, interpreted the treaty as a centralising rather than decentralising measure.

MAASTRICHT DEBATE

Britain should "forget Maastricht".

She disputed the reappointment of Jacques Delors as EC president for a further two years, backed by Mr Major, as wrong and described subsidiarity, the principle seized on by Mr Major for returning powers from Brussels to nation states, as gobbledygook.

The former prime minister singled out for praise the Danes for saving parliamentary democracy by voting against ratifying the deal reached last December. Asked if she would vote against the ratification bill in the Lords she replied: "Most certainly, I didn't vote for the treaty of Maastricht."

"Maastricht is a treaty too far. I most earnestly hope it will not be ratified. It takes so many powers from ours, the oldest parliament, the mother of parliaments in the world, which has been the example and inspiration to others."

Like Denmark, the British

government should have a referendum to let the people speak as the treaty's plans for a single currency, a common citizenship, and common foreign and defence policies were constitutional issues. "If the people have their say, it will be dead and we are answerable to the people. I think Maastricht should be dead."

With Mr Major focusing the attention during Britain's presidency of the EC on strengthening the principle of subsidiarity, Lady Thatcher read out a letter from Lord Mackenzie-Stuart, former president of the European Court of Justice, in *The Times* on June 15. The letter said the treaty's definition of subsidiarity was too long to quote but "it is a rich and prime example of gobbledygook embracing simultaneously two opposed concepts of subsidiarity."

Lady Thatcher said: "That is what it is: gobbledygook." Referring to the EC commissioners she added: "Do not look at what they say, look at what they do."

Later she commented: "They got rid of commissioners in eastern Europe. We have still got the commissioners answerable to nobody."

Lady Thatcher defended her support in 1988 for reappointing M Delors to serve until the end of this year on the grounds of seeing through the creation of the single EC market. But, since then, he had increased the bureaucracy, bringing in too many EC laws by majority rather than unanimous voting.

"Under all the circumstances it would have been better to have a change," she said. "To suggest that there is no-one there who is suitable to be president of the commission I thought was an insult to many who are there."

If she had remained prime minister, she predicted the Conservatives would have won the last general election, although she could not say if their majority would have been different, because people respected her strength and principles.

She implicitly apologised to Mr Major for her comments in the *Newsweek* interview suggesting that he was not his own man. She meant, she said, that he became his own man on becoming prime minister and party leader in 1990, not when he won the election. "I am sorry that was taken the wrong way."

Major's pledge, page 1
Peter Riddell, page 14

King of the F-word adapts to new order

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN LISBON

SEVERAL of Jacques Delors' senior advisers in the European Commission hang a large picture of its president in their Brussels offices. In the photograph, M Delors is smiling and shaking hands with a crowd which waves miniature blue-and-gold EC flags.

The picture captures the Delors cult of personality at its peak in the late 1980s when the president reaped the benefits of launching the 1992 single market programme. Hopes for a united Europe rose again as its intertwined economies boomed. M Delors' fame on the Continent was clinched by Margaret Thatcher's eulogy: being targeted by the Iron Lady turned him into a hero from Mannheim to Madrid.

But the image belongs to a vanished past. Britons now ask whether M Delors is really the contrite civil servant of the weekend's Lisbon summit. Other Europeans ask whether he has not made a

gigantic miscalculation by preaching an unattainable federal Europe. M Delors remains a hugely popular figure, and not merely in his native France where, if opinion polls are any guide, a presidential election held tomorrow night would see him elected. He no longer has a big idea to sell. Europe cannot agree what his big idea should be: federalism or subsidiarity? Political union or economic integration?

As he cruised to a new two-year term at the head of the Commission, confirmed at the Lisbon summit, M Delors reverted to his low-profile role as a "bon fonctionnaire". Gone is the impassioned orator who declared on the eve of the Maastricht summit that "federalism is not a portmanteau word". As he spoke, the Community's 12 leaders were removing the "f-word" from the treaty on political and economic union.

M Delors' silted attempts to adapt to the fluid uncertainties of an EC agenda profoundly altered by the Danish referendum are sincere. He is at heart a manager and civil servant. The Treaty of Rome charges the Commission president to uphold the ideas of European union, but his exhortations are usually scholarly and dull.

At 67, he has only once held elected office, a single term in



Staying power: Jacques Delors summing up the results of the Lisbon meeting. His new term of office will be profoundly affected by the Danish referendum

the European parliament. He is not at home in a Europe in which the grand designs of European union are disrupted by crowds of gently anarchic Danes taking advice from their country's leading rap group to dump the Maastricht treaty.

M Delors can claim with perfect justice that he is no late convert to the idea of subsidiarity, the assertion developed from Roman Catholic social doctrine that power should be held at the most local possible level. He first began talking about the idea in 1988, when the powerful German regional governments started fretting about the threat that Brussels posed

to their prerogatives. M Delors' dissections of subsidiarity are by no means the end of the British government's problems with this elusive idea. He remarked privately last week that no sooner had he launched his thoughts on subsidiarity inside the 17-member Commission than he began hearing 16 different versions of what the word means.

M Delors has recently diluted the federalism that he preached in earlier years: he lays heavier emphasis now on the staying power of nation states. He sees the issue of balancing power inside the EC as one of regulating the internal mechanism of a

monolithic system. He is a decentraliser, but he assumes that devolution of less important powers is in the gift of a single, powerful centre. The Community's decisions should affect the issues that can make Europe a political and economic superpower.

In a revealing phrase in their report on enlarging the EC, the commissioners acknowledged that the EC was too often bogged down in secondary matters and gave "no leadership on questions of vital importance". M Delors stays as determined as ever to have money and military force decided by the Community.

Lamont lands in tax war

BY SHEILA GUNN

NORMAN Lamont faces a fresh battle of wits today with the EC tax commissioner Christiane Scrivener as she tries to force Britain to adopt a legally binding minimum value-added tax rate of 15 per cent from next January.

The chancellor is treating the meeting of Community finance ministers in Luxembourg as a test of the Commission's seriousness about

adopting a more decentralised stance. For more than a year, he has been fighting attempts to impose legally the VAT rate as part of the single European market by arguing that Britain would prefer a gentlemen's agreement between the member states to a legally binding provision. Britain's domestic standard rate of VAT stands at 17.5 per cent and the government has made clear it has no intention of changing the rate in the foreseeable future.

Mr Lamont disputes the EC commissioner's argument that the minimum rate must be enshrined in European law as part of the completion of the internal market.

Mme Scrivener warned the chancellor this month that refusal to accept a legally binding agreement might tempt the Commission to look again at the range of good and services in Britain, such as food and children's clothing, which are zero-rated. Until now, they have been guaranteed exemption from the proposed 15 per cent VAT rate under the EC's sixth VAT directive.

With Britain about to assume the EC presidency, Mme Scrivener is expected to use today's meeting as a final attempt to rally support from other member states to force agreement from Mr Lamont.

However, Mr Lamont is preparing to counter by persuading his fellow finance ministers that, when the borders come down, market forces should ensure free competition so that there is no need to juggle the national rates of VAT artificially.

European door is kept open

NEIL Kinnock yesterday refused to rule out the possibility of becoming a European commissioner although he insisted that, at this stage, reports of such an appointment were no more than "mind-boggling" speculation (Sheila Gunn writes).

Questioned on TV-am's *Frost on Sunday* about his future after stepping down as Labour leader next month, Mr Kinnock appeared satisfied with the prospect of returning at the age of 50 to the backbenches and a seat on the party's ruling executive.

However, he did not dismiss the idea of replacing Bruce Millan as one of Britain's two EC commissioners. Nor did he reject taking the post of foreign secretary, in a Labour government under John Smith.

His comments follow signs of growing enthusiasm among EC leaders and officials at the Lisbon summit at

the weekend for Mr Kinnock to become a commissioner. He has formed close links with European socialists and presented his party as firmly pro-EC at the election.

Government sources have made clear that John Major would be prepared to put forward Mr Kinnock's name if nominated by the new leader of the Labour party.

In the television interview Mr Kinnock said he was going to be around for a long time. "There are certain causes that I want to promote and they include causes that can be described as EC causes. So I'm not going to sit here at 50 years of age and say never in the whole of the future would I even contemplate it (the post of EC commissioner). But it's not even a realistic idea now."

He also left the way open for Labour to change its mind about opposing a referendum on the Maastricht treaty. If the constitutional problems over the future roles of the British parliament and the EC were to continue for a long time, he indicated that it might be necessary to seek the electorate's endorsement.

Beach patrols issue sun, sea and sewage warning

Millions of tourists who travel to Italy this summer in search of sun, sea and sand may find themselves wallowing in sewage, scientists from an environmental watchdog body said yesterday.

The Lega Ambiente (Environment League) sounded the alarm over the parlous state of the Italian seaside after the scientists began collecting samples of seawater in two survey ships known as green schooners. The results on the quality of the sea at popular beaches in Campagna and Lazio in the south, and Veneto, Friuli and Venezia Giulia, between Venice and Trieste, conflict with government information on several beaches officially fit for bathing.

The pressure group says that is because the government is using research col-

Scientific tests have shown that many of Italy's favoured seaside spots are unfit for bathing, writes John Phillips

lected last year while their survey was carried out this month. "The data gathered so far unfortunately confirms everything bad that one knew already about these stretches of coast," Lucia Venturi said for the Lega Ambiente.

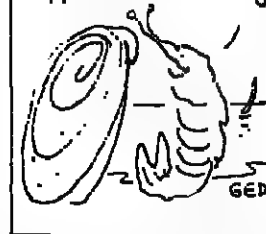
All ten areas surveyed in Campagna, from the southernmost tip of the Bay of Naples northwards, proved worthy of "black flags" to discourage bathers, the report said. Analysis of seawater taken from off the shores of Naples showed a pollution level 150 times higher than the limit recommended by Italian law, according to the report.

Seawater at some beaches on the island of Ischia was said to contain pollution 15 times over the limit.

Eight of 12 areas surveyed off the central coast of Lazio also proved polluted beyond the limit, including the seaside at Fregene, the resort favoured by Rome's film stars, and Terracina, which has been a fashionable beach spot since classical times.

Refreshing exceptions where the sea was well below the limit were registered at Sperlonga, the fishing village favoured by artists, and at beaches near the port of Civitavecchia.

We're part of the effluent society



Eleven of 15 samples in a stretch of the northern Adriatic coast also showed excessive levels of pollution, according to the pressure group.

The Lega Ambiente hopes that the surveys will encourage thousands of volunteers to turn out to clean beaches on the peninsula.

Francesco De Lorenzo, the Italian health minister, has something else to worry him, meanwhile. He has

opened an enquiry into tax evasion on Capri after learning that at least 70 per cent of the resort island's residents claim free prescriptions for medicines, apparently on the ground of poverty.

The minister said that he began the investigation while lunching at one of his favourite restaurants near the island grotto. The proprietor complained that his waiters were among the few islanders paying taxes.

"I discovered that there are many people exempt [from prescription charges] in the island, perhaps 70 to 80 per cent of the population. We live in a corrupt society. The health sector suffers from it as well. I will order a deeper investigation into Capri even though it is part of my constituency," the minister said.

Amato forms cabinet

Rome: Giuliano Amato, the incoming Italian prime minister, yesterday agreed to form the 51st government of the postwar republic and unveiled a cabinet sprinkled with new faces selected to undertake sweeping political and economic reforms (John Phillips writes).

Signor Amato, 54, a socialist intellectual, faces a confidence vote in parliament this week. In principle he commands a slender majority of socialists, Christian democrats, liberals and social democrats, but commentators question whether his cabinet will survive much beyond the summer holidays.

He emphasised the new faces in his team, such as Piero Barucci, the treasury minister, who is managing director of the Credito Italiano bank, and Alberto Ronchey, former editor of *La Stampa*, who becomes minister for cultural heritage. Carlo Ripa di Meana, the socialist European environment commissioner, will be environment minister.

Last week Signor Amato unveiled plans to tackle the public sector deficit and give priority to electoral reform, curbing corruption and fighting organised crime. More than 100,000 people took part in a demonstration against the Mafia in Palermo on Saturday, paying tribute to the murdered anti-Mafia judge, Giovanni Falcone.

Estonians vote

Tallinn: Estonians voted yesterday to confirm the first new constitution in the former Soviet Union. Opinion polls suggest it was passed overwhelmingly, however, most of the republic's 38 per cent Russian population were barred from voting.

Hashish seized

Málaga: Spanish customs agents seized almost a tonne of hashish from a boat off the coast east of Málaga yesterday and arrested a Moroccan. The haul brings to nearly 3,700lbs the amount of hashish seized in the area recently. (Reuters)

Penalty call

Stockholm: The case of a man convicted of attempted murder and several robberies over 30 years, and now accused of robbing a bank two days after discharge from a psychiatric hospital, has revived demands for tougher penalties in Sweden. (Reuters)

Twenty plus

Vaduz: Liechtenstein has rejected plans to lower the voting age from 20 to 18. The government said 56.3 per cent of the electorate had voted against a proposed constitutional amendment. Liechtenstein has a population of about 28,000. (AP)

Race poll

Lille: Voters in the depressed French town of Hautmont, which has an 18 per cent North African population, voted to halt immigration in a referendum yesterday. The poll was criticised by the government and anti-racism campaigners. (Reuters)

Strayed lion

Helsinki: Reports of a lion roaming southeast Finland were laughed at until police issued a warning against visiting forests there. Erik Nyholm, chief of the Game and Fisheries Research Institute, said tracks were found of a big feline. (AP)

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Coup de lawes opp

TV cover

Serb leader warns West of Vietnam quagmire

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

RADOVAN Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, has never minced his words. He said at the weekend: "If there is armed intervention over Sarajevo, Bosnia will turn into a new Vietnam. This is not an ideological but a civil war. We shall fight to the death." But even as he spoke his men were withdrawing artillery and tanks from around the besieged city's airport.

With Croat forces rampaging across Bosnia, Serb forces in retreat and Serbia on the international rack, to fight the world to keep an airport would be a foolhardy gesture at best. Taking the threat of military intervention extremely seriously, the demoralised Bosnian Serb forces are now turning to saving what they can.

Bosnian Croat forces, backed by Croatia, are moving in a pincer movement to cut the republic in two. They are also thrusting across the frontier near Dubrovnik to break their revenge on Trebinje, where Serb troops besieging the Adriatic ports have their headquarters.

At the weekend Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, praised Serb forces for withdrawing from around Sarajevo airport but criticised Bosnian territorialists for ceasefire breaches. Diplomats in Belgrade say that the fear is that Croatia has been egging the Bosnians on to provoke the Serbs precisely in order to trigger a full-scale military intervention.

If this happens, then Zagreb would seize the opportunity to drive Serbs from the UN-protected enclaves in Croatia and a dramatic and bloody new cycle of vengeance and "ethnic cleansing" would begin.

In Belgrade, official Serbia has been curiously quiet about the impending threat of intervention. President Milosevic insists that he is appalled by the shelling of Sarajevo, that Serbia has no territorial designs on Bosnia, and that his country is the victim of an "international

media conspiracy". But the war that Mr Milosevic and his allies began a year ago has now run utterly out of control. All the best-laid Serbian plans are on the brink of disaster. Greater Croatia may yet arise from the ashes of greater Serbia.

Radovan Karadzic is now shunned by Mr Milosevic, at least publicly, but fuel supplies are still reaching the Bosnian Serbs. Serbia is also collaborating in "ethnic cleansing" in eastern Bosnia. For several days, a thousand Bosnian Muslims have sat in trains in the northern Serbian town of Subotica after being cleared by force from a town in eastern Bosnia.

By contrast, the country is rapidly waking up to the fact that fresh trainloads of Serbian refugees will soon be coming from Croatia and Bosnia. It is also clear that, having been ousted from the Bosnian Serb vast amounts of weaponry from the former federal army, they are now no longer at the beck and call of the Serbian president. Faced with military defeat, they will continue to fight rather than lay down their arms to save Mr Milosevic or to have sanctions lifted from Serbia.

Even the immediate departure of Mr Milosevic would no longer be enough for Serbs to extricate themselves successfully from the present predicament. A new Serbo-Croat war cannot be excluded.

War in the south in Kosovo is also on the agenda. Having brutally repressed the autonomy previously granted to the two million Albanians who live in the province, no peaceful accommodation with Serbia is possible; but not even the most liberal Serbian opposition politicians can contemplate conceding Kosovo's independence or union with Albania.

Mr Milosevic's options are diminishing. Allies are deserting him and he has begun to resort to eccentric suggestions such as confederation with Greece.

Mitterrand mission, page 1

Coup de théâtre awes opposition

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

LIGHT sniping from the opposition did little to quell a wave of admiration in France yesterday for the personal courage and political initiative that President Mitterrand displayed in staging his lightning trip to Sarajevo.

While the country held its breath for the safety of the president and Bernard Kouchner, the humanitarian action minister who accompanied him to Bosnia, the Elysee announced the departure for Sarajevo of two military cargo aircraft carrying tons of medical supplies.

In the media and in public gathering places there was widespread admiration for M. Mitterrand's decision to stage a coup de théâtre that broke weeks of waffling over the Yugoslav wars by statesmen and international bodies. "It's a crazy gamble,

but fantastic," *Le Journal de Dimanche* said.

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former president, paid tribute to the president's courage but said he wished that M. Mitterrand had decided to go it alone. *Le Figaro* mixed its praise for the president with concern over damage to European efforts to speak and act with one voice on foreign policy. "M. Mitterrand has always known how to seize the moment with panache and turn it to his profit," it said.

"I don't think much of M. Mitterrand," a concierge on the Left Bank said, "but he went in there and all those Americans and English didn't."

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Royal progress: Crown Prince Alexander Karadjordjevic, pretender to the Serbian throne, greeting supporters as he crossed into the former Yugoslavia from Romania on his way to Belgrade. Later he addressed a crowd at an opposition rally that was demanding the resignation of Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president

Bush weighs advantages of using military in Sarajevo

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush, facing an agonising election year decision on whether to commit United States forces to the relief of Sarajevo, conferred urgently with other world leaders on Balkan developments over the weekend.

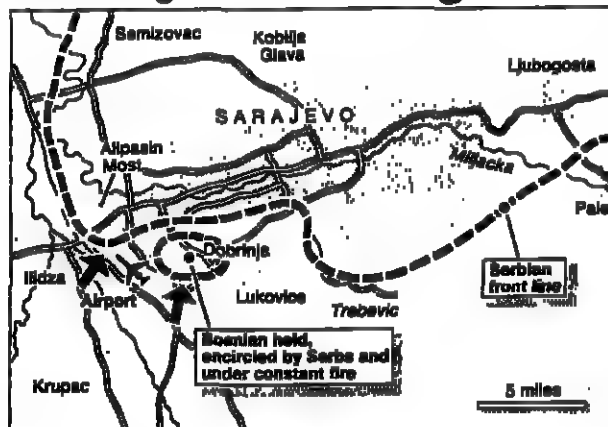
Following the EC's endorsement on Saturday of military force and with the UN's 48-hour deadline for an end to the fighting due to expire last night, Mr Bush took time, on his daughter's wedding day, to telephone leaders including John Major, President Yeltsin of Russia and Brian Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister.

The unpopular president knows that a swift, decisive operation could secure his reelection in November but a messy, protracted involvement would only deepen his vulnerability. There is minimal enthusiasm in Washington for using force but most diplomatic options have been exhausted.

The United States has reportedly refused a German request that it send the Sixth Fleet from Sicily to the Balkan coast. Officials say that if the Americans did participate in a United Nations operation it would be in an air role at most and would insist that European nations provide the ground troops.

The president's top advisers remain split on the issue of military intervention. James Baker, the Secretary of State, believes strong action is now essential to end the "humanitarian nightmare" in Bosnia and is expected to mount a diplomatic drive this week to secure the necessary UN authorisation.

The Pentagon, appalled by the scale and hazards of the required operation, is strongly opposed. The United States should not participate in any relief operation until a "permissive environment has



been clearly framed by the Serb belligerents", it argued. In a classified internal memorandum.

Military planners believe that a military thrust to reach and secure Sarajevo would require two divisions or as many as 40,000 ground troops, preceded by a possible parachute assault and an air offensive to take out Serbian mortar, artillery and anti-aircraft positions in the hills around Sarajevo.

Just how difficult that would be was demonstrated by the inability of American planes to destroy Iraq's Scud missile launchers during the Gulf war. Defence officials also recoil from the open-ended nature of such an operation.

After Friday's White House meeting of the president's top security advisers, Brent Scowcroft, the national security adviser, said the Yugoslav conflict was as "intractable" as those in Beirut or Northern Ireland. It would be "the stickiest kind of conflict possible", said the former general, and he is relatively hawkish on the question of military intervention.

He refused to speculate on the possibility of air attacks on Serbian artillery and mortar positions and said the White House meeting, also attended by Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had discussed "a

number of options," of aiding Bosnia.

In contrast to the Gulf war, Washington is eager for the Europeans or the United Nations to appear to be taking the lead this time, arguing that this is a strictly European matter.

With regional conflicts breaking out in the former Soviet bloc, it is also anxious to avoid setting a precedent by rushing to intervene in this one. Vladimir Lukin, the Russian ambassador to Washington, indicated last week that his country would be willing to join a military operation to relieve Sarajevo.

"Why do you consider that Russia should play a passive role and Nato should intervene by itself?" he asked reporters. "There are other organisations... We should discuss it, all of us."

With American TV's nightly pictures of the bloodshed in Bosnia, congressional and media pressure for action is growing. The administration was moving closer to military intervention to relieve Sarajevo, said *The Washington Post*, but not close enough.

There is urgent humanitarian reason to stop this behaviour, and a basic political reason. In a world fraught with real and potential ethnic conflict, there must be rules of the game. Protecting civilians must become rule number one."

UK troops unlikely in airlift

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ALTHOUGH the European Community agreed in Lisbon to use all measures necessary to reopen Sarajevo airport, Britain is unlikely to contribute troops to any UN airlift.

Confirming Britain's reluctance yesterday, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, added however: "We are putting together the aircraft necessary, the supplies that are necessary." He told BBC television's *On the Record*: "I am sure it could be done but it would be much easier to get in than to get out."

The EC summit resolved to use all measures necessary to reopen the airport and deliver humanitarian aid to Sarajevo and surrounding areas. "The EC and its member states are ready to co-operate in this as far as is legally and practically possible. This may include airborne humanitarian aid. While giving priority to peaceful means, the European Council does not exclude support for the use of military means by the UN to achieve these humanitarian objectives."

Mr Hurd said Britain believed fighting could worsen rather than end over the next few months. He admitted that others such as Italy appeared more willing to take the risk.

Mr Hurd will visit Yugoslavia next month when Britain assumes the EC presidency and will discuss the situation there this week with Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general in London.

In Lisbon Mr Major warned the West that it could become embroiled in a bloodbath.

Crown Prince joins protest

BY TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN

BLOWING kisses to the crowds, Crown Prince Alexander yelled at the top of his voice: "I am with you." The pretender to the throne of Serbia returned to his country on Saturday and yesterday addressed more than 60,000 people at an opposition rally in central Belgrade.

Alexander Karadjordjevic, hitherto a British businessman, has returned to Serbia as the opposition marshals its forces in a last-ditch effort to secure President Milosevic's resignation. But officials at yesterday's rally admitted disappointment at the turnout.

Crown Prince Alexander who, because of international sanctions, was forced to return via Timisoara in Romania, visited striking Belgrade University students on Saturday night and urged them to keep up their protest against Mr Milosevic "until the end". The students gave him a rapturous welcome, chanting in unison: "We want the king!"

The rally, which was held on Vidovdan, the day on which Serbs commemorate their defeat at the hands of the Ottoman Turks in 1389, was blessed by the country's Orthodox patriarch. The church, a traditional ally of government in Serbia, has made its opposition to Mr Milosevic's government explicit over the past two months, and yesterday the patriarch appealed for Serbs to resolve their differences without resort to civil war.

The demonstration was organised by a new coalition, the Democratic Movement for Serbia, but the most important speaker was Vuk Draskovic, leader of the main opposition party. He called on the army and police to "join the Serbian people" and appealed to Mr Milosevic to go, saying that, if he did not, "Serbia will be a corpse; people will pick it up".

Mr Draskovic, the only speaker to tackle the thorny question of war guilt, also told the crowd that Serbia needed to seek repentance for its acts. He spoke of the people of Sarajevo "eating grass and needles", and predicted that unless Mr Milosevic resigned this would be Serbia's fate too. Mr Draskovic said that President Milosevic claimed "that the cause of our downfall is that we are Serbs. He has a therapy — stay in the abyss, starve, or die heroically in the struggle against the whole world."

Mr Draskovic said that a resolution of the present troubles could be found only if all Serbia's political movements thrashed out the foundations of a transitional coalition government through round-table talks.

While the opposition to Mr Milosevic becomes steadily stronger, the turnout at yesterday's rally seems to indicate that their moment has not come yet. Nevertheless many demonstrators last night declared their intention to camp in central Belgrade until the president goes. Sava Kosadinov, a protester from the provincial city of Nis, said: "We shall get rid of this communist scum. The one who tries to stop the wheel of civilisation will fall under it and be crushed."

So to Greece: European Community leaders, in a concession to Greece, said on Saturday that they are ready to recognise the republic of Macedonia, but only if it does not call itself by that name. The decision was aimed at ending months of deadlock during which Greece vetoed EC recognition of the former Yugoslav republic if it called itself Macedonia.

Athens accuses the government in Skopje, which declared itself independent in March, of trying to usurp the northern Greek region of Macedonia. (AP)

TV coverage draws flak

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW television, already seen by many former Soviet republics as a purveyor of mischievous disinformation, was the object of further controversy yesterday after it appeared to have exaggerated wildly the scale of a skirmish between armed factions in Muslim Tajikistan.

The main news bulletin of the television channel of the Commonwealth of Independent States, which is watched across 11 time zones, suggested that 100 people had been killed in clashes at three villages near the Afghan border. In a report that could have stirred passions in other Muslim regions of the former Soviet Union, it said there were women and children among the dead and that many of the corpses were unidentifiable.

Yesterday, it emerged that the encounter, it between supporters of President Nabyev, Tajikistan's communist leader, and residents of the remote Kurgan-Tyube region had been much less serious

than commonwealth television had suggested. An official of the Democratic party, part of the liberal-Muslim coalition that recently forced Mr Nabyev to share power with his opponents, said about 15 people had been injured, one critically. He said local residents had successfully thwarted an attempt by pro-Nabyev irregulars to seize control of the remote region.

Sherali Khairullayev, Tajikistan's deputy interior minister, said he had received reports of up to ten violent deaths in the region, but nothing had occurred on the scale described by the broadcast. "We protest strongly at the gratuitous stirring up of passions over the social and political situation in the republic by the Russian and commonwealth mass media," he said.

The headquarters of the commonwealth television station, at Ostankino in northern Moscow, was picketed and nearly stormed earlier this month by headline com-

munist who were protesting at their lack of access to the official media. Today, pro-Yeltsin reformists plan to hold a counter-demonstration at the site.

US prisoners: A Russian official heading a search for missing American prisoners of war in the former Soviet Union said yesterday that four Americans had been held at a Soviet psychiatric hospital in 1953.

Earlier, *Itar-Tass* news agency said that at least one American prisoner of war was buried near the central Russian city of Tambov, south-east of Moscow. That was the first tangible result of an intensified hunt for Americans missing after the second world war and the Korean and Vietnam wars.

General Dmitri Volkogonov, who heads a joint Russian-American commission on prisoners of war, said in a television interview that there were no clues yet on the identity of those held in the psychiatric hospital.

Army chief issues plea to officers

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

IN A document indicating a steep decline in the morale of the former Soviet armed forces, General Pavel Grachev, the Russian defence minister, has appealed to all Russian officers to stay at their posts and play their part in building the new army.

His appeal, published at the weekend in *Krasnaya Zvezda*, the army newspaper, assured officers that there was no question of "wholesale demobilisation". He said: "Demobilisation will be conducted stage by stage as the forces are reformed." He promised that ministers would solve the social problems facing officers and their families "as a matter of top priority".

Demobilised officers and those withdrawn from Eastern Europe are facing an acute shortage of accommodation and employment.

Priest ministers in Moldavia rubble

FROM ROBERT SEELY IN BENDERY

FATHER Anatoli, a Moldavian Orthodox priest, crossed himself twice as he ran past the bulk of a burnt-out and bullet-ridden lorry. The priest has been busy this week. More than 300 people have been killed throughout Transnistria as Russian rebels try to carve out a mini-state from the former Soviet republic of Moldavia.

Elsewhere in Bendery, few people were venturing on to the streets. Those who had decided not to evacuate their families after a week of fighting were seeking refuge in their cellars.

Around Bendery, lies the wreckage of an increasingly vicious civil war. The Russian shell of a T64 tank set on the bridge over the river Dniestr which connects Bendery with the rest of the self-proclaimed Transnistria republic on the left bank of the river.

Five wrecks, including two lorries, a jeep, an artillery piece and an anti-aircraft gun littered one street corner near the Transnistria headquar-

ters in Bendery's former town hall, now itself pitted with bullet holes.

Dozens of Transnistria's irregular troops were yesterday encamped in the buildings' cellars. Most of them were, until less than a month ago, civilians working in the town's defence-related industries. Their military kit usually extends to machinegun, invariably with two or three magazines wrapped by blue sticky tape, and a shabby uniform.

More than 1,500 Moldavian police and interior ministry troops are ranged against them. The Transnistrians control about 50 armoured vehicles, "loaned" by the 14th Russian army which is stationed in the region. The Moldavians possess dozens of armoured personnel carriers and up to 25 tanks. Vyacheslav Kogut, the mayor of Bendery, says: "We have enough for an effective defence."

Many of his men look frightened and all have ichy



fingers on their triggers. Some, after a week's violence, have ceased to care for their personal safety. "This is a war in the name of the people. The Moldavian police are no better than Nazis," said Vyacheslav Melnichuk, a slightly built bespectacled 32-year-old who looked as if he would be more at home with computers than weapons.

Mr Melnichuk was heading to Tiraspol, separatists' "capital", to sign up for a sub-machinegun and a uniform. "After what has happened here in the past week, we have been forced to take to weap-

ons to defend ourselves against Moldavia's police," he said.

The relationship between the 14th Russian army and the Moldavians has also worsened. Although there are no Russian officers manning the barricades in Bendery, they have taken up police duties in areas of Transnistria to enable the Transnistrians to field a larger number of men in clashes with the Moldavians.

Discipline in the army is being strained by the war. Many of the officers were brought up in the region and local loyalties have now usurped their willingness to obey command from Moscow to stay neutral.

Moscow: Ukraine has expressed grave concern for the safety of its citizens in Moldavia, and demanded the right to inspect ammunition dumps and other potentially dangerous installations near the frontier. It said it would consider "measures envisaged by the UN charter" in the event of non-cooperation by the warring parties.

Loose cannon on short leash

Baroness Thatcher is unlikely to shift the Major line, says Peter Riddell

Margaret Thatcher will not fade away into quiet retirement: not for her the anecdotes of the green-room that Harold Macmillan so savoured. Her eruption in an interview yesterday with David Frost was the start of a highly active period, including the launch today of her reordering of Lincoln's Gettysburg address, her introduction tomorrow into the House of Lords as Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven, and, shortly afterwards, her maiden speech. But can her thunder and lightning inflict any real damage on John Major and his government?

Her disagreements with her successor cover not only the Maastricht treaty and the reapportionment of Jacques Delors but also interest-rate policy and public spending. Her declaration yesterday that "I chose John. I worked for him and I made the right choice" had a hollow ring. So strong were her criticisms that I wondered whether she would even be taking the Conservative whip in the Lords. Sometimes the tolerance of even their lordships is stretched too far, as it was a few years ago when, in an exchange of letters worthy of P.G. Wodehouse, Bertie Denham, then chief whip, suggested to Lord Alport, a persistent critic of government policy, that he might be happier giving up the Tory whip.

Her fire was concentrated, of course, on Europe. Maastricht was "a treaty too far" and she would "most certainly" vote against its ratification in the Lords. She may not get the opportunity since, by convention, the Lords do not vote against the second reading of bills that were commitments in the election manifesto of the party in power, as ratification of Maastricht was. The future Baroness Thatcher will soon learn the limitations of what she can do in the Upper House.

The Thatcher onslaught on Europe will continue to attract attention, both in the Lords and if she intervenes at the Tory party conference as Sir Edward Heath memorably did in 1981. She remains the biggest star among opponents of the treaty. But I doubt if her attacks will be decisive. The future of the Maastricht treaty is largely on what happens in the French referendum and on whether the Danes can be brought back on board. But if other countries rally, then so, eventually, will the Commons.

Mr Major will not have an easy time. Following the general discussion at the Lisbon summit about the desirability of "subsidiarity", he will have to offer a specific and legally enforceable definition of its meaning to satisfy his own MPs. Whenever the bill is revived, the committee stage will be the toughest test for the Tory whips since EC entry 20 years ago. But, in the event, if the preconditions of overseas support are satisfied, he will win. However, if the treaty fails because of defeat in

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

the French referendum or because the difficulties of the Danes cannot be resolved, Mr Major will have shown that it is not Britain's fault. He did his best to honour commitments made at Maastricht; therefore Britain should have a central say in what happens next. By not risking an unnecessary confrontation now in the Commons, before the external conditions are right, he can also shift his position domestically if the treaty falters in the rest of Europe.

The future Baroness Thatcher may damage Mr Major more on the economy, though this is also now a European issue. Yesterday she defended Britain's membership of the exchange-rate mechanism, while simultaneously deploring the impact of the associated high interest rates on recovery prospects.

'Disraeli was right about the House of Lords; it is the Elysian fields for the politically dead'

She echoed the views of many MPs in urging a further cut in interest rates as a prerequisite for recovery. She went further and urged a realignment of exchange rates "when the prime minister considers the time is right". John Smith has been moving in this direction as well. So unless there is firm evidence of a rise in activity by the autumn, the government could find itself under pressure to take action.

Downing Street will no doubt publicly brush aside Baroness Thatcher's attacks, and in general it will be right to do so. Her views, and sympathies, are over-represented in the press. Whatever her allies in *The Spectator* and *The Sunday Telegraph* think, and hope, there can be no restoration. Disraeli was right about the House of Lords: it is the Elysian fields for the politically dead. A speech may, from time to time, be noticed; a rebellion may be a nuisance to government managers; but it is peripheral to the main political debate. As Harold Macmillan found when he became Earl of Stockton, the novelty of criticism by former prime ministers soon fades. So far there is no standard-bearer for her views of any significance in the Commons; with few exceptions, the main Thatcherite are happy to advance their careers under the Major banner. Baroness Thatcher should not delude herself. She has lost the ability to "make the weather" as Churchill said of Joseph Chamberlain. She no longer has a mandate: Mr Major has.

Mitterrand thrilled the French, but even they are asking questions, reports Charles Bremner

Tonton's finest hour



A warrior renewed: Mitterrand. Resistance hero, rides again

Roland Dumas, the foreign minister, as a "spectacular gesture of solidarity" with Bosnia that would serve to "break the circle of steel and fire and blood that grips 350,000 people".

M Dumas, clearly uneasy about the lack of Community consultation, noted that M Mitterrand had warned his partners at Lisbon that the time had come "to change rhythm and put an end to this scandal at the gate of the European Community". France was showing its support for a suffering people and brought credit to itself in the eyes of the world.

In M Mitterrand's calculations, his coup d'état diplomatique, as the headlines termed it, was a natural exercise of that special prestige on the world stage which France has largely lost with the collapse of communism, the rise of Germany and a series of bungled actions such as the engagement in Lebanon a decade ago. For France there was the additional bonus of upstaging the Americans, with their constant reproaches over European inaction.

Judging by the talk around

Clemenceau's tours of the trenches and, perhaps most comparable with Sarajevo, General de Gaulle's daring march up the nave of Notre Dame in 1944 as German sniper bullets hit the floor around him. M Mitterrand himself had previously taken only a slightly lesser risk when he visited Beirut.

To make sure he reaped the full domestic benefit, the president took along with him reporters from *Paris Match* and the French news agency, "Good for old Tonton," went the line from some grudging admirers around a newspaper stand on the rue de Sevres. "At least he got out there and put his hide on the line while everyone else is just talking."

M Mitterrand's gesture has a particularly heavy bearing on his own political fortunes. He has virtually staked his presidency on a yes vote in a referendum on Maastricht expected in September, and his opponents, notably Gaullists of the RPR, have been citing the impotence of the Community over Yugoslavia as proof of the folly of further integration. Domestic pressure for French

action has been fuelled by visits to Sarajevo over the past month by public figures, most recently Jean-François Deniau, a leading opposition politician.

However, in taking the initiative without any apparent mandate from his fellow leaders in Lisbon, M Mitterrand opened himself to attack for disrupting the very unity he went to Lisbon to preach. The centrist UDF group, which supports Maastricht, was quick to pounce yesterday, saying that however estimable his personal courage, the president had damaged the European cause. "Imagine what France would have said if Chancellor Kohl had undertaken such a trip," said François Bayrou, the UDF's secretary-general.

M Mitterrand's people have been emphatic that his mission was purely humanitarian and not the precursor to any unilateral military action. Apart from the havoc this would play with the Community and the UN, there is no support among the French military. Just taking control of Sarajevo airport, said one French officer, would require a force of tens of thousands of commandos. With its valley setting, the Bosnian airport is all too reminiscent for older officers of the scene of France's last great military tragedy — Dien Bien Phu.

Death of the lad of letters

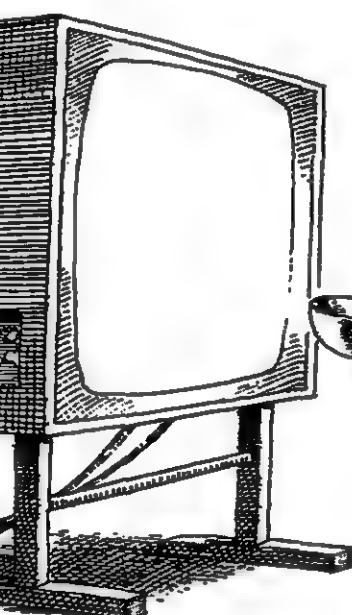
Bernard Levin asks how schools feed minds without literature

Here's a fine state of affairs. No sooner has the government decreed that children studying the English language in our schools should not do so from the more idiotic television programmes (or even the less idiotic ones), but from the English classics, than a howl of anguish has gone up from the teachers of our unique and infinite tongue. For the nature of the howl, I turn to the education correspondent of *The Sunday Times*, Charles Hymas: "Classic works by Shakespeare and Dickens and the Bible have been branded as 'too difficult' by secondary schools taking part in the first of the government's new English tests. Comprehensive across the country are withdrawing pupils from the tests because they are not ready... the set texts, central to the back-to-basics drive... are beyond the abilities of too many pupils... the pilot tests for 14-year-olds, due to start next month, were in danger of collapsing in disarray..."

The first thing we have to do is to sack, say, nine-tenths of the teachers of English in the country, without redundancy payments or pension. The second is to blow up the Department of Education with the entire staff in it. The third is to sit down and weep.

Shakespeare, Dickens and the Bible: these are singled out, it seems, to illustrate what a 14-year-old cannot understand. I pluck down, first, a volume of my beautiful Nonesuch Dickens: it is *Nicholas Nickleby*. Here is Dickens's incomprehensible description of Squeers:

He had but one eye, and the popular prejudice runs in favour of two. The eye he had was unquestionably useful, but decidedly not ornamental: being of a greenish grey, and in shape resembling the fan-light of a street door. The blank side of his face was much wrinkled and puckered up, which gave him a very sinister appearance, especially when he



smiled, at which times his expression bordered closely on the villainous.

I turn now to Shakespeare, also in the Nonesuch edition (the post-war one). In case I am accused of setting the sights too high, I take a passage of prose, and I have even (it goes hard) modernised the orthography. Here is the impenetrable Shakespeare, where Henry the Fifth is wooing Katharine:

A good leg will fall, a straight back will stoop, a black beard will turn white, a curled pate will grow bald, a fair face will wither, a full eye will wax hollow, but a good heart, Kate, is the sun and the moon; or, rather, the sun, and not the moon: for it shines bright and never changes, but keeps his course truly. If thou wilt have such a one, take me and take me, take a soldier: take a soldier, take a king.

For the third test, yet again with Nonesuch, I choose the unintelligible St John, after the Last Supper:

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go, ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Now for some rage. I am a childless bachelor, but this crime perpetrated on the young transgressors in its wickedness, any distinction between those with children and those without. My school was by no means a forcing-house, but by the time I was 14 I had not only read practically all of Shakespeare, but committed to memory something like 2,000 lines of his. I had certainly read at

least half a dozen of Dickens. *The Three Musketeers*, *Treasure Island*, most of Kipling's poetry, *Don Quixote*, most of Chesterton and Belloc, Peacock, Karel Capek, Beerbohm, heaps of Shaw, Hazlitt and Coleridge, and — as anyone who has done me the honour of reading my book *Enthusiasts* will know — *Moby-Dick*.

But I do not give that catalogue to show how precociously clever I was: the whole point is (with the exception of the memorising — I had a freak memory, all my coevals could have said the same, and many could have said more. Who robbed this country's children of the understanding of books?

The excuses will come pouring in. Families have ceased to urge the love of reading; the children themselves have vastly more entertainments than we did, pre-eminently, of course, television. But we have missed the point. The terrible charge is not that children of 14

reject the reading and studying of substantial and serious books; it is that they haven't been taught to understand them.

It must be obvious that children who have reached the age of 14 without also reaching the habit of real books and their meaning are very unlikely to get the habit later on: we are not only stealing from our children one of the most precious and costly jewels we could give them, we are simultaneously breeding a race of illiterates. Look at my three excerpts. Now tell yourself that they would probably be rejected as a test of the English language, on the ground that they could not be understood by 14-year-olds. Moreover, the original intention in the testing process was not the use of Shakespeare, Dickens and the Bible: the list included *The Ancient Mariner* and *Jane Eyre*, though it seems they disappeared early on, presumably because if 14-year-olds jibbed at Dickens, it would take contestants of 28, or indeed 56, to unravel those mysteries.

We heard a good deal from the then minister of education before the election, and we have heard more from his replacement. Their theme is spelling and punctuation, and, indeed, grammar; but if 14-year-olds do not understand Dickens, Shakespeare or the Bible, a lot of use it will be to tell 10-year-olds the difference between dative, accusative and genitive.

I have said more than once, and not as a paradox or metaphor, that the English language is the greatest work of art the world has seen. But if it is, then what we are doing with it is the equivalent of ripping up a Leonardo, banning Beethoven and pulling down the Parthenon.

All the talk we ever have heard uttered by bat or beast or bird — Hide or fin or scale or feather — Jabber it quickly and all together! Excellent! Wonderful! Once again! Now we are talking just like men. Let's pretend we are — never mind! Brother, thy tail hangs down behind!



...and moreover MATTHEW PARRIS

Some years ago, Alan Coren wrote an essay about an incompetent blackbird. He could see it from his window, trying unsuccessfully to build a nest. It hadn't a clue, Coren was torn. Should he crawl along the branch to give the creature a hand, interfering with nature? We were never told what he decided.

Even at the time I knew how he felt. But on Saturday I felt it for myself. I had to make a similar decision about a tit. It was worse for my tit than for Coren's blackbird because his nestmaker faced only the humiliation of chatting up a bird, then having nowhere to invite her back for coffee. But to my fledgling tit, whether I intervened was life or death.

I think it was a tit, but I am more confident of its address than of its tribe. It has been living with its parents, inside the thick stone wall of my barn, about ten feet up. There is a gap between the stones there which I have left unstoppered because birds go in and out every spring, no doubt to nest. This year birds that resemble tits began bringing twigs in their beaks. More recently they have been bringing worms, as the cheeping within swells to a screech.

We are blessed with the patter of tiny claws. How many I do not know. With luck there are others. The thought that mine could have been an only fledgling weighed heavily with me. In a moment you will hear why.

But not before I ask whether you have wondered, as I have,

how it is that a bird ever learns to fly at all? Can there be any first attempt of such an all-or-nothing kind? Once out of the nest and in freefall surely the baby bird must fly properly within seconds or die? If it tumbles to earth it is prey to every hawk, cat or fox around. Its parents cannot (can they?) airlift it back to safety.

Have you ever parachuted? Do you know the horror as you sit on the edge of that roaring space and prepare to tumble? Our fear (which we know to be irrational) can be as nothing compared with that of the fledgling, for whom everything depends upon the immediate exercise of a skill he doesn't even know he has. What must go through a young bird's mind, as his mother nudges him towards that brink which, ever since he hatched, has marked the limits of his world?

And yet they do fly. And of course in Darwinian terms that is not surprising. We never encounter the descendants of the birds that did not. Those happy few we meet are genetic copies of the tiny minority that did not fail. And each new generation, like the quality control in a biscuit factory, filters out a few more duds, refreshing the genetic inheritance, refining the race. The fledgling poised on the edge of the nest represents a supremely Darwinian moment. To interfere is to foul the clear stream of evolution. "Let the strong trees grow tall," Mrs Thatcher used to say. I never

had any problem with that. It was letting the weak trees not grow tall that troubled me. I walked out on Saturday morning to find on the ground beneath the tit's nest a fledgling who had failed his Darwinian GCSE, cheeping. What to do? The dilemma seemed to encapsulate an agony at the very heart of the philosophy of freedom. Should I return him to his mother? Should I tip back into the tit's gene-pool a dodgy flyer, prejudicing the future of tits as yet unborn? What would Mrs Thatcher do? At difficult personal moments I always ask myself this. Keith Joseph, I think, would have left the bird, then spent the night in sleepless remorse at what he had done. She would have placed it kindly back in the nest, gone on to cut the DHSS fledgling benefit, and refused to reconcile — or even to connect — the two actions. One of the features that marked Mrs Thatcher out as an achiever was that she never had any trouble with this sort of thing. Asked to apply her political philosophy to the situation she would have replied that Conservatism hadn't got anything to do with birds.

And I? Well, I could write up this story, but there would have to be an ending. An unmerciful one would alienate readers, obstruct my career and thus, however marginally, downgrade my own life-chances.

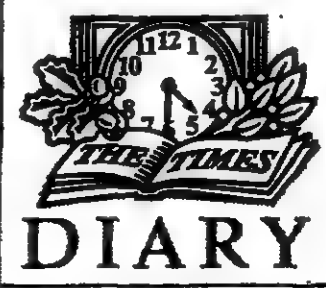
I fetched the stepladder. It was Darwin, you see, who, in this most un-Darwinian act, guided my hand.

Let them know who's boss

SIR JOHN BANHAM'S years as director general of the Confederation of British Industry have stood him in good stead in his dealings with politicians. Having been "invited" by Michael Howard to consider a site in Docklands for the new local government commission which he chairs, Banham is said to have told the environment secretary he is not prepared to have his staff traipsing half way to Essex. Evident environment department civil servants, preparing for their own exodus to Docklands, are expected this week to announce that Banham and his team will be based in smart central London offices. His stand against central government politicians will no doubt hearten the candidates for the post of chief executive of the commission. The favourite for the £80,000-a-year job is Rodney Brooke, 52, the former chief executive of Westminster city council, who now runs the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

After four years of working for Dame Shirley Porter, Brooke left to head the Tory London Boroughs Association. He became secretary of the Labour-dominated AMA in 1990. Noted for his gravitas and dress sense, Brooke was on good terms with Banham when the latter was head of the Audit Commission.

His 37 years in local government have taken him through all ranks. "Nobody knows more about local government than Rodney," said one former colleague. "Most of the children of council chief executives in this country seem to be his godsons or goddaughters or are married to his cousins. Anybody who could have survived as long in Lady Porter's service must know a thing or two."



First it was leaves on the line. Then they blamed the wrong sort of snow. But BR commuters on the Norwich to Liverpool Street line were given the ultimate excuse at the weekend for their delay at



Stratford. "We require written permission to move," said the loudspeaker message. Presumably it came by pony express or carrier pigeon as the train was stationary for 90 minutes.

Unlucky for some

THE timing of President Mitterrand's visit to Sarajevo could be portentous, for it is not the first time the French leader has stepped into controversy as West contemplates military inter-

vention. In January 1991 he submitted an 11th-hour peace plan to the UN Security Council, raising the possibility of sending his foreign minister to Iraq to secure a negotiated settlement. The initiative failed, and within 48 hours the Gulf war had begun.

It would appear that Mitterrand's PR men have been reading their history books. Not only was June 28 the day in 1914 when Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated in Sarajevo, starting the first world war, it is Saint Vitus's day, when according to legend the rivers of the Balkans will run blood-red at midnight. On June 28 1389 the imperial Turkish armies of Sultan Murat slaughtered the Serbian nobility in the battle of Kosovo and on that day in 1948 Marshal Tito defied Josef Stalin and declared his own brand of non-aligned communism.

Hard times

CONTRARY to popular perception, some Lloyd's names are still able to force down the odd caviar canapé despite their losses. Lloyd Roberts and Gilkes, members' agents, are holding a dinner at the Savoy for their names after their annual meeting tomorrow. Robin Gilkes says: "We debated for a long time about whether, in these stringent times, we should have our usual dinner. In view of our results, which, while not as good as usual — we did not make a profit — are not as bad as they could have been, we decided to go ahead."

But the occasion will be a trifle more muted than in previous years. There will be no champagne. "Only house red and white". Names will be transported from their annual meeting at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in an executive coach. In another concession to austerity

they will be served nothing stiffer than a strong coffee on board.

● Paddy Ashdown's telephone hotline is proving surprisingly popular. Callers who ring the 0891 number get a short message from their leader and the chance to talk at length to the message machine. While some politicians might find endless advice from the party faithful difficult to take, Ashdown is all for the constructive criticism, not least because all proceeds from the calls go to party funds. He is likely to recognise some of the voices: some Liberal Democrats have been ringing from the Commons to give their tuppence-worth. Calls on the Commons telephones are paid for by the taxpayer. Well, Ashdown does support state funding of political parties.

Knock me down

WHEN is a feather not a feather? The answer, as Sothby's knows, is when it costs £3,000 and purports to be the quill with which Nelson wrote his last letter to Lady Hamilton before the Battle of Trafalgar. The pen, to be auctioned on July 21, comes with a note of provenance: "This pen was taken by Major Wright out of Lord Nelson's writing desk on the 2 November 1805 in the presence of Captain Hardy of the Victory, who desired him to keep it."

There is only one problem. The name of Major Wright does not appear on the official muster roll of Victory at Trafalgar. But as Sothby's points out, on November 2 1805 the ship was at Gibraltar and Wright might have come on board. If so it is the only example of Hardy making an impromptu exception to Nelson's wishes. On the admiral's instructions all his other belongings went directly to Lady Hamilton.



A REFORMING PRESIDENCY

The good news out of Lisbon is that the European Community summit failed to gloss over the profound anxieties about a European superstate articulated by the Danes' rejection of the Maastricht treaty. For the sake of an appearance of harmony the Commission and most of the 12 have been prepared to leave all difficult decisions for the British presidency to sort out after Wednesday. The predictable outcome of their efforts at evasion is that this summit was both indecisive and, even by EC standards, fractious. The communiqué referred to the ratification of Maastricht as though nothing had happened, but reality forced its way into their debates. The real question for the British presidency will be what to do about Maastricht.

The bad news is that the EC has again shown itself incapable of action on the two most urgent questions before the Lisbon summit. On Yugoslavia, its disarray is complete. And in the one undisputed area of EC competence, trade policy, the 12 appear willing to risk the collapse of the world trading system rather than another bruising argument with France over farm subsidies. Yet failure to conclude the Uruguay Round would be vastly more significant than the collapse of Maastricht.

Following an acrimonious stand-off at Lisbon, John Major has now the dubious pleasure of brokering a compromise over Jacques Delors's brazen demand to increase the Commission's budget, currently under-spend, by a third over the next five years. But the one clear decision out of the summit is a defeat for his strategy for the British presidency even before it begins. The admission of new members has been made contingent on agreement over the budget and on the entry into force of the Maastricht treaty.

The summit has thus brought the EC to a juddering halt, unless it can resurrect Maastricht. The EC has no legal right to the fact this treaty cannot enter into force unless every EC member state ratifies it. What Lisbon shows is how far the EC's leaders are from fashioning a political response to their

voters' swelling distrust of federalism. Mr Major expressed delight that any changes to EC institutions prior to its enlargement which the Commission had been actively planning before the Danish vote, had been "firmly squelched". But institutional reforms are in fact urgently required. Not in furtherance of M. Delors's federal agenda, but to roll back the Commission's powers to reach international and local decisions.

At Lisbon, as at Maastricht last December, Mr Major homed in on the subsidiarity which it is Britain's pride to have inserted in the Maastricht treaty. Having made its ratification a point of British honour, his strategy appears to be to coax the Danes back on board by adding a binding protocol that will restrict the Commission's freedom to exercise the dramatic extension of its powers under the treaty.

The ambiguity of the treaty's subsidiarity clause makes that vital. Article 3b says that the Commission will act only if an objective desired by the EC cannot be achieved by member states acting alone. But this applies only to areas where the Commission shares competence with the Council of Ministers. And it is silent about who decides where power should reside, the Commission or governments.

Denmark's foreign minister, Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, needs more than a mere codicil to make Maastricht reviled palatable to his voters. Their problem, as he said at Lisbon, is not just with the treaty but with the EC's general lack of openness and accountability. The codicil must make absolutely clear that it is up to governments to decide what to delegate upwards to the Commission, not the other way round.

But Mr Major must also make good his Lisbon pledge to ensure that the Commission hands back powers it already has, by revoking directives that do not measure up to a tightly drafted version of subsidiarity. Only by what amounts to a radical shift in the balance of power within the EC can he hope to salvage the treaty on which he has firmly, perhaps rashly, staked his word.

HIGH TIME TO STOP IT

As an old political fox, President Mitterrand has lost none of his talent for surprise. His fight to Sarajevo, arriving in the besieged Bosnian capital on the anniversary of the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand 78 years ago, has left his European Community colleagues aghast, wrongfooted his domestic critics, delighted thousands of hungry and despairing Sarajevoans cowering in their cellars. His *coup de théâtre* may seem self-serving. But M. Mitterrand has also demonstrated personal courage, responded to the growing western outrage at the indiscriminate shelling of civilians, and pointed up the futility of legalistic arguments about the use of force that look like indecision.

European governments, especially Britain, have argued strongly against intervention and peace-making by force, on the grounds that this would only suck the world into the maelstrom of ethnic hatreds and vendetta politics. Instead they have tried to tighten the diplomatic and economic noose around Serbia, in the naive belief that Slobodan Milosevic will call to heel the Serbian guerrilla gangs now plundering Bosnia.

As long as the primary objective was to restore a semblance of peace and prevent the Balkan conflagration spreading, this course could be defended. But night after night the pictures of civilians shot as they search for food, or blown up by mortars in their homes, have begun to change perceptions. Are the people of Sarajevo, like the Jews of the Warsaw ghetto, to be starved and shelled into submission while armed troops go from house to house in their chilling "ethnic cleansing" operation?

It was the Americans who responded first to the public mood, hinting that they were now contemplating the use of force over Sarajevo. Almost immediately the Europeans changed their tune. The Western European Union last week discussed legis-

tics. The Lisbon summit produced a Delphic utterance about not excluding support for the use of force. Harassed United Nations officials now admit that if the convoy waits for a ceasefire to last a full 48 hours, it will never reach the city. The Serbian irregulars have no intention of letting up. And Croats and Muslims are taking advantage of every lull to fortify their own lines. Boutros Boutros Ghali, the forthright UN secretary general, has now delivered an ultimatum: unless attacks on the airport ended within 48 hours, the Security Council would meet today to consider other measures — in other words, force.

Securing the area around the airfield could take more than 100,000 men, and EC countries will not commit troops unless they can be withdrawn quickly. Europe and America could however provide military air cover for relief flights. They could attack artillery positions or Serbian supply lines and gun emplacements. Force means risk. The UN's new commitment to peace-keeping cannot avoid all risk. M. Mitterrand implicitly challenged the artillery gunners to shoot him down: they would have fewer qualms in attacking a UN relief plane.

The West is proposing intervention not to end the civil war, but to save 300,000 civilians from disease and death. Lord Carrington's thankless task of negotiating a settlement must go on. Serbia must be isolated and contained: the kind of tacit help it is seeking from Greece in bearing sanctions must be denied, and the West should be ready for further mischief-making by Mr Milosevic in Kosovo and Macedonia. Not all the armies of Europe can prevent a megalomaniac trying to ignite a Balkan war. But credibility of western values is at stake in Sarajevo. Wringing one's hands is a feeble response. At least M. Mitterrand has done dramatically more than wring his hands.

BUBBLES FOR ALL

Champagne is being sold for less than £8 a bottle in British supermarkets this jolly June. This is not sparkling white wine artificially injected with fizz. It is the true juice, laboriously hand-turned and fermented naturally a second time by the *methode champenoise* in limestone caverns in the old French province of Champagne, as allegedly discovered by accident by the cellar-master monk Dom Perignon four centuries ago.

It is not going for a lot under £8: usually £7.99, on the marketing managers' insolent assumption that shoppers are thick, and look after the pounds, but let the pence look after themselves. But even the down-market stores, with their foundation motto "pile it high, sell it cheap", are offering champagne at prices almost as low as can be obtained by thrifty shoppers in French offices.

This democratisation of champagne has been caused partly by the recession. In the sparkling days two long years ago, in spite of prices of the famous brands climbing towards £20 a bottle, sales of champagne were soaring so high that there was even talk of rationing. Since then sales (though not prices of the big-name brands) have plummeted and are still falling. And the supermarkets, which over the past five years have become the biggest wine merchants in the United Kingdom, are trying to drain their champagne lakes by cutting prices.

But the sudden remarkable cheapness of champagne is a social as well as an economic phenomenon. The best things in life should be available to everybody in Mr Major's kingdom, which is aiming to be a classless democracy. National music day yesterday was designed to bring the finest and most

elusive of the arts to a generally tone-deaf nation. "People's Saturday" at Wimbledon brought cut-price tickets and hearty cries of "Come on, Steffi" to the Centre Court, that conformist chapel of suburban gentility.

Champagne was developed as a luxury product, and has always been aimed with vast success at the British market. Bubbly and fizz were until recently upper-class synonyms for the liquid, and numerous aristocrats who wasted their inheritances in riotous living have been known as Champagne Charlies. More than four centuries ago, Thomas Shadwell could pronounce definitively: "The qualifications of a fine gentleman are to eat *à la mode*, drink champagne, dance jigs and play at tennis."

Champagne, tennis and fashionable eating have now become available for everyman and everywoman, though dancing jigs may still be confined to the "okay, yah" class. Bubbly is the one drink of which you never get a bad bottle, and which is alleged, with more poetry than truth, not to give hangovers. The swizzle-stick, designed to remove those expensive bubbles, is a peculiarly illogical English aberration.

Luxuries are positional not absolute goods. From cavern to Dickens, oysters were a cheap form of food for the working man. According to folk legend, London apprentices demanded to have written into their aricles that they should not be fed on the common fish, salmon, more than twice a week. One should eat and drink what one enjoys rather than what is fashionable. But Champagne Charlies and Charleses of all classes can make bubbles while the sun shines by a trip to their local supermarket.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Health care in London: the challenge and the real prize

From the Chairman of Hammer-smith and Queen Charlotte's Special Health Authority

Sir, The King's Fund Commission is to be congratulated on producing a report (details and leading article, June 24) that highlights the problems of London's health care and suggests, at least in broad and understandably cautious outline, a set of radical solutions.

No one doubts the central thesis: that there are too many acute hospitals in inner London, too much duplication of specialty services, and that as a result some hospitals should close. But enthusiasm for the development of primary and community care appears to have persuaded the commission that almost all the revenue released by hospital closures can be withdrawn from the acute sector. This is not so.

Unless a substantial proportion of this money is reallocated to the hospitals that survive, existing under-utilisation (reflected in wards closed for part of the year and under-used capital equipment) will continue. And Londoners' health care will not improve.

The commission has also not given sufficient thought to the structure of research and teaching. Again, no one doubts its central thesis: that increased concentration, underpinned by strengthened basic science, is desirable. But that is not compatible with divorcing, as the commission suggests, research and teaching institutions from their hospitals, relying instead on a vaguely defined series of contracts with health-care providers.

Research and teaching will continue to be satisfactorily carried out only by institutions for which that is the primary responsibility and in which research, teaching and service responsibilities are fully integrated. We have a unique opportunity to take difficult decisions about London — a new government, a new secretary of state, a new minister of health, a new permanent secretary. There appears to be the political will to act, even though the King's Fund's suggested sweetener of £250 million to develop primary and community care may not be immediately forthcoming.

The real prize is a radical, logical redistribution of London's resources in a way that improves care and

strengthens London's position as Europe's leading centre for medical research and teaching.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER BLAND,
Chairman, Hammer-smith and Queen Charlotte's Special Health Authority,
Hammer-smith Hospital,
Du Cane Road, W12,
June 24.

From Mr Michael Harmer

Sir, The map which you published on June 24 identifies 15 London hospitals facing possible closure. Of these one, St Bartholomew's, is the oldest in Britain (with the possible exception of St Bartholomew's, Rochester); it is among the oldest in Europe and indeed in the world.

I find it incredible that the chairman of the King's Fund Commission can write: "the status quo is not an option this time". By what right can any ephemeral politician, financier or bureaucrat decide that the Royal Hospital, founded by Rahere in 1123, is redundant?

Bart's, where I qualified as a surgeon in 1979, may indeed need improvement: this it has achieved several times during the last eight centuries. I do not doubt that it will do the same in the twenty-first.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HARMER,
Ferry Wood, Grafton,
Peworth, Sussex.

From Mr James Johnston

Sir, Your editorial (June 24) apparently accepts without question the idea that London hospitals should serve the needs of patients living in their immediate vicinity. There is no reason why their resources and skills should not continue to be available to others in areas less well served, in return for some sharing of the cost.

A few years ago the life of a member of my family was saved by the specialist treatment of a London teaching hospital to which referral had been made from a rural hospital unable to diagnose the disease. The treatment was not particularly "glamorous" or "high-tech". It was simply better, owing to the concentration of experience and skills which a large teaching hospital can offer.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES JOHNSTON,
As from: 82 Ingelwood Road, SW8.

Vanunu's future

From Mr Peter Benenson and others

Sir, We are grateful for Bernard Levin's moving plea for the release of Mordechai Vanunu from prison ("A prisoner who shames Israel", June 22). Last year the European Parliament clearly condemned Mordechai's abduction and imprisonment and called on Israel to free him.

We very much hope that such official steps, such dignified and persuasive appeals as Mr Levin's and the work of the campaign to free Vanunu will soon lead to a change in Israel's attitude and to Mordechai's freedom, particularly in the light of yesterday's election result.

What he said in a poem written in prison could be an inspiration to all courageous whistle-blowers:

I have no choice
I am insignificant. A citizen.

A common man.

I'll do what I must,
According to my conscience.

Yours sincerely,

PETER BENENSON, KEN COATES,
BRUCE KENT, YASIEL LOTAN,
HAROLD PINTER,
JACOB VAN UEXKULL,
ANDREW WILSKI (Traneem),
The Mordechai Vanunu Trust,
6 Endsleigh Street, WC1,
June 24.

From Mr J. Davis

Sir, Has Bernard Levin considered the possibility that the object of Vanunu's pursuit and imprisonment is not to prevent the further disclosure of vital information that he possesses?

As Levin rightly says, nothing is more important to Israel than security: in which case it is justified in taking appropriate measures to that end.

Yours sincerely,
J. DAVIS,
The Cottage, Rock Mount,
Near Peel, Isle of Man,
June 24.

Water abstraction

From Mr Bruce J. Dawson

Sir, Water abstracted from rivers is used to supply the public with what it considers to be a limitless resource. It would be wrong to lay the full blame for high abstraction rates from rivers at the door of the statutory water companies, who have a legal obligation to supply their consumers.

Water is not a limitless resource in the southeast of England. Statistics quoted at a recent Institute of Water and Environmental Management meeting indicate that the rainfall (from which our drinking water originates) per capita in this region is currently comparable to that of the desert-covered Middle East states.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE J. DAWSON,
Brackenwood Lodge, Prospect Road,
Barnes, Hertfordshire.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

Greenpeace and BNFL

From Miss Gillian Pearce

Sir, Lord Melchett (letter, June 23) complains that BNFL should not be allowed to spend "£100,000 of taxpayers' money" defending themselves against Greenpeace's actions. I feel that Greenpeace is at fault.

Although there are places in Cornwall where radiation levels are higher than those published for readings within 300 metres of the Chernobyl reactor, the Cornish do not have a high leukaemia rate according to figures published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

The result of the actions of pressure groups such as Greenpeace over the years has been to make regulatory levels for radiation stricter and stricter, to the point where they now apply rather embarrassingly to nor-

'Entombed' at Kew

From Mr Keith Kyle

Sir, I would like to endorse the case made by Sir Roy Denman (letter, June 19) for a systematic review of all past decisions to withhold public documents beyond the standard 30 years in the fresh light of the prime minister's enthusiasm for greater openness.

In preparing a recently published book on Suez, I found not only whole files excluded from the appropriate annual release but also particular documents within a file. For example, at the most critical stage of the conflict, two cabinet meetings were held on November 2, 1956. The earlier minutes have been withheld until 2007. Minutes of other meetings, some one might think highly embarrassing to Britain even in retrospect, are freely available.

Why the distinction? One quite possible explanation could be that covert action against Nasser was discussed: that, as I understand it, would trigger the reflexes of the "weeders", who have been told to exclude matters that fall within certain categories.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH KYLE,
25 Oppidians Road, NW3,
June 19.

Lib Dems and media

From Mr Matthew Taylor, MP for Truro (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, I was surprised to read your article of June 22, headed "Lib Dems 'biggest election bullies'", about a report issued by the British executive of the International Press Institute on the attitude of reporters, and broadcasters in particular, to politicians during the general election campaign. Surprised, because you reported the IPI criticisms of the Liberal Democrat campaign without at any stage seeking our response.

To suggest, as the IPI report does, that we could "bully" Channel Four is frankly ludicrous. Channel Four invited Paddy Ashdown to appear as the lead story on the day we launched our manifesto, an offer he accepted and arranged his time accordingly. For their own reasons, within three hours of the programme, they withdrew that invitation and asked him

From Mr Alan Meyer

Sir, Whilst it may well be correct, as David Willets writes ("Hospitals on the critical list", June 23), that people's needs no longer require so many teaching hospitals in central London, they need hospital facilities, especially casualty and outpatient departments, particularly in the frequent absence of other services at weekends and at night.

The problem which has not been faced in moving the Charing Cross and St George's hospitals out of the central area is that greater distances and traffic density create a need for more ambulances.

You cannot move hospitals away without producing a vastly upgraded London ambulance service. That has been overlooked so far and the problem will be greatly exacerbated when the Westminster Hospital closes in 1993.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN MEYER,
Chairman,
The Westminster Hospitals
Development Fund,
10 Carteret Street,
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.

From Mr Roger Fox

Sir, David Willets omits the one element that any strategy for London hospitals should include.

London is a centre for medical excellence with an international reputation. We should be proud of it and develop policies to sustain its position. I fear that inappropriate changes to the structure of London hospitals and research institutions could destroy the basis of decades of achievement.

It has to be recognised that it is the interplay, or competition, between relatively small units which supplies the thrust for advance. Centralisation and amalgamation (beloved of old-style socialists) could undermine the achievements of the present system.

Large hospitals and research centres have diseconomies of scale which could be costly in terms both of research and competition in the internal market.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER FOX,
School of Social Sciences,
Thames Polytechnic,
Wellington Street, Woolwich, SE18.

mal natural stones in the South West which produce radioactive radon gas. By industrial standards much Cornish rock on spoil tips, footpaths, popular bathing beaches and even a council car park would be classified not as "low-level radioactive waste" but as "intermediate level".

Some Cornish rock has now, by internationally agreed legislation, to be transported as radioactive material, with the highest category labels. Radioactivity at Sellafeld is far less, yet Greenpeace press on with their campaign against the nuclear reprocessing plant there.

Yours faithfully,
GILLIAN PEARCE (Secretary,
Devon and Cornwall Prospecting
Society),
44 Lancaster Drive,
Paignton, Devon.

War crimes trials

From Mr Greville Janner, QC, MP for Leicester West (Labour)

Sir, Lord Shawcross (letter, June 22) refers to the "supposed view of the majority in the Commons" in favour of Britain's recent war crimes legislation. "Supposed?"

On December 12, 1989, 348 voted in favour and 123 against — a majority of 225. On March 19, 1990, 273 voted in favour and 60 against — a majority of 213. On April 25, 1990, 135 voted in favour and 10 against — a majority of 125. On March 12, 1991, 177 voted in favour and 17 against — a majority of 160. On March 25, 1991, 211 voted in favour and 57 against — a majority of 154. Some "supposed" view!

There was a majority from every party for action in those cases where the responsible authorities consider there to be sufficient evidence of personal complicity in murder — usually mass murder. The All-Party Parliamentary War Crimes Group and the vast majority of elected MPs profoundly disagree with those, like Lord Shawcross, who believe that these people should not be prosecuted.

Yours faithfully,
GREVILLE JANNER,
House of Commons,
June 25.

to be interviewed on the second part of the programme. He was unable to accept that revised invitation. Channel Four can hardly complain about the result of their change of mind.

No journalist who travelled with Paddy Ashdown during the campaign could possibly deny that he was the most accessible of the three party leaders. It was disheartening that some broadcasters chose to abuse that accessibility by plaguing him, and we therefore attempted to control it — but he remained throughout the most accessible of the three leaders.

All serious points of view should be aired during an election campaign — and Liberal Democrats sought such a fair hearing.

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW TAYLOR
(Chairman, Campaigns and Communications, Liberal Democrats),
House of Commons,
June 23.

Legal redress on Maxwell pensions

From Mr George Rose

Sir, Maxwell pensioners (and any others in a similar position) who may be seeking restitution from third parties with respect to assets allegedly removed unlawfully, have a new ally — the Court of Appeal.

Your Law Report of June 24 reports the court as upholding the findings of Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson in *SIB v Pantell*. The issue is the effect of section 61(1) of the Financial Services Act, this authorises the Securities and Investments Board to take proceedings against third parties, to compel them to provide restitution against those "knowingly concerned" in the allegedly unlawful transactions.

It is of course open to the third party to defend itself by establishing that it knew nothing of the wrongdoing and was acting at all times with complete propriety. Subtleties will then ensue, such as the question whether "knew" includes "ought to have known". Such refinements can safely be left to the court.

Where moral suasion is enough to compel a third party to make good the loss, all well and good. Where it is not, the courts now clearly provide an avenue which should be explored.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE ROSE (Publisher),
The Lawyer's Diary,
15a Grove Road, Sutton, Surrey,
June 24.

Top people's pay

From Mr Geoffrey Holroyde

Sir, As my career included senior posts in the private and public sectors, I feel competent to compare the rewards and stresses of the two areas. Your leading article, "Call their bluff" (June 22), reflects exactly my views.

If John Major gives in to the 30 per cent claim (letters, June 25; report, June 27) he will win the votes of the few who stand to gain and those who aspire to succeed them, whilst disenchanting millions by the sweat of whose brows we are struggling to rebuild our economy.

The relatively few overpaid directors of private companies should not be used as a benchmark. They too should be shamed into wanting less.

Yours etc.,
GEOFFREY HOLROYDE,
38 Coten End, Warwick.

From Mr James Cane

Sir, Your editorial accepts that "the civil service recruits those who want the status and satisfaction of public service, job security, ... smooth career progress and a guaranteed inflation-proof pension, and who do not mind a life of bureaucratic caution and relative anonymity."

Are you persuaded that people with these requirements and qualities are those best able to carry out these roles? Would it not be better for Britain if civil servants received pay comparable to their skills, knowledge and experience and did not receive the negative rewards you list — not to mention a going on retirement?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES CANE (Director),
Greenly's Ltd.,
39 Thames Street,
Windsor, Berkshire.

Business letters, page 23

Electricity research

From Sir Alan Cottrell, FRS, FEng

Sir, Professor Ian Fells (letter, June 24) omitted to point out the worst consequences of the decimation of research by the privatised electricity supply industry. The technical underpinning of the industry will be weakened so much that I predict, in a few years' time, during some severe winter, supplies over a large region of the country will collapse, with heavy losses of industrial production.

This will engender a demand that the industry create an adequate technical base. And this in turn will simply recycle us back to the early postwar decision to equip the Central Electricity Generating Board with research departments, the loss of which is so properly criticised by Professor Fells.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN COTTRELL,
40 Maids Causeway, Cambridge.

Brake on enthusiasm

From Mr Norman Laking

Sir, Surely Networkers cannot be the first trains in Britain to be equipped with regenerative braking (report, June 17)? Some 35 years ago I remember my electrical engineering professor at Sheffield University lecturing on the system of regenerative braking used even earlier on the electric trans-Pennine rail link between Manchester and Sheffield.

Yours sincerely,
N. R. LAKING,
4 West Street,
Ryde, Isle of Wight.

Measure for measure

From Mr Fred Kibble

Sir, The mathematics teacher of Mr Grosvenor Myers's acquaintance (letter, June 22) who was told that he must order metric rulers by the dozen should have amended his order to 8½ dozen.

Yours faithfully,
FRED KIBBLE,
26 Seeds Lane, Brownhills,
Walsall, West Midlands.

[illegible]

OBITUARIES

JOY NICHOLS

Joy Nichols, comedienne and actress, died in New York on June 23 aged 66. She was born on February 17, 1926.

Joy Nichols was one of the nation's favourite show-business personalities of the early post-war years. She was an excellent comedienne with a fine singing voice who achieved almost instant fame co-starring with Jimmy Edwards and Jack Bentley in the long-running radio series *Take It From Here*, and her bouncy, sparkling, wholesome sense of fun was irresistible.

Indeed, the very wholesomeness of her personality coupled with good looks enabled the writers Frank Muir and Denis Norden to slip into the script the occasional joke that in those stiff-backed BBC days was considered risqué. Her comic timing was equal to that of her fellow comedians and the sense of camaraderie the trio achieved, even when the script had them arguing, was warming to the millions who tuned in each week.

Her radio fame, which in the late Forties and Fifties was the equivalent of television stardom today, led to her being offered the lead in the London West End production of *The Pyjama Game* in 1955. The show ran for 18 months and her exuberant singing of "Hey There" and "I'm Not All in Love" were regular show-stoppers.

The Australian-born actress, who first became a radio star there aged seven, was married in 1949, at the height of her radio fame in Britain, to the American singer Wally Peterson. They had three children but were divorced after 28 years.

Soon after her success in *The Pyjama Game* she decided to consolidate her career success in America but it did not work, at least not immediately. American Equity, the actors' union, made her wait for a year before letting her work there but even then the parts did not come quickly. After three years of living frugally and playing small roles, she landed one of the leads in the Broadway production of the musical *Fiorello*. She was 33 and looked destined for stardom but it never quite happened.

After ten years in America she returned to London. In 1969 she was to open at the Palace Theatre in London in the key role of Madame Defarge in the musical *Two Cities*, but she walked out during rehearsals amid rumours that she had fallen out with the star, Edward Woodward. It was to be six years before she reappeared, picked for what was a minor role in yet another musical, *Great Expectations*, with Sir John Mills and Moira Lister.

After being spotted in the Oxford Street Mothercare store selling baby clothes for £20 a week, she made no apologies, saying that she needed the money. At one stage she returned to Australia, launching a stage show in Sydney and for a while had her own radio show but both soon ended, never to be revived.

On her return to Britain she took a half-page advertisement in *The Stage* announcing that she was open to offers of theatrical work, but there were none. One of her last showbusiness assignments was in 1979 when she appeared in two episodes of the television series *My Son*.

She is survived by twins, Richard and Victoria, and an older daughter, Roberta.

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Mary Frances Kennedy Fisher, American food writer and novelist, died on June 22 aged 85. She was born in Alhambra, Michigan, on July 3, 1908.

M. F. K. FISHER, as she was always known, wrote with humour and sensuous elegance. Her fresh and personal approach to gastronomy transformed the genre from mere information to high art. Indeed, she won the much quoted praise of W. H. Auden, who wrote a substantial introduction to her collection *The Art of Eating* and considered her prose to be unsurpassed by that of any other American writer.

She had a knack for titles. Beginning with her first book, *Serve It Forth*, published in 1947, she rattled off *Consider the Oyster*, *How to Cook a Wolf*, *The Gastronomical Me* and *An Alphabet for Gourmets* over the next 12 years. The five volumes, considered to be classics of their kind, were assembled as *The Art of Eating* in 1954.

James A. Beard, reviewing that collection, wrote: "Mrs Fisher is a woman who has had many gifts bestowed on her — beauty, intelligence, heart, a capacity for the pleasures of the flesh, of which the art of eating is no small part, and the art of language as well. She is a rarity in American gastronomy; one of the few writers in the great European tradition of Brillat-Savarin, Maurice de Mably or George Saint-Simon."

Of Scottish and Irish descent, M. F. K. Fisher was born into a family with five generations of journalists on each side. Her father was the owner of a small newspaper. It never occurred to her that she would be anything other than a writer, and her interest

in food as "something beautiful to be shared with people instead of as a three-daily necessity" also began at an early age.

In 1929, while studying at the University of California, she met and married Alfred Young Fisher, and the couple spent the first years of their marriage in Europe, mainly at the University of Dijon. It was there that her love of European cooking was born, and she later described her time in Dijon as "two shaking and making years in my life".

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Search for Aids vaccine boosted by animal 'host'

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE search for a vaccine against Aids should be speeded by the discovery that an animal species, the pigtail macaque, can be infected with the virus responsible for the disease, HIV.

The discovery, to be announced in this week's issue of *Science*, will help researchers by providing a good model for the development of the disease in humans. Previously only the chimpanzee and the gibbon have been shown to be susceptible to HIV, and both are endangered species. The lack of a useful experimental animal has forced many scientists to work on the

related simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) which infects rhesus macaques. But SIV is not the same as HIV, which has made the work of doubtful relevance to Aids.

The fact that HIV will infect one variety of macaque but not another has come as a surprise. For a long time, nobody even tried the pigtail macaque: "I guess people thought a macaque was a macaque," said William Morton, of the University of Washington, which is jointly responsible for the discovery with Northwestern University in Chicago.

Whether the pigtail macaques will get full-blown Aids is not yet clear, but all eight injected with the virus in the past year are now HIV-positive. The animals may also make possible studies of the spread of Aids, a controversial subject in the light of claims last week from Birmingham that one HIV-positive man has been responsible for infecting at least four women with the virus.

The low rate of transmission of the virus in normal heterosexual intercourse has led some researchers to doubt the claims. According to the World Health Organisation, the chances of catching the virus through unprotected vaginal intercourse range from one in a thousand to one in a hundred. This may help to explain why the long-predicted heterosexual Aids epidemic is slow to develop.

The aftermath of the Birmingham case is becoming a battle between those who say that a heterosexual epidemic is unlikely or impossible, and those who claim that it is already beginning, but is still at a very low level. Most of the official Aids bodies, and the Department of Health, hold the latter view.

An important but unknown element in the rate of spread is the frequency of other sexual practices between heterosexuals, including anal intercourse. No reliable figures exist, though there is evidence of wide variations between different cultures, which may help explain the differing rates of increase in Aids in different countries.

Major takes tough line on Europe

Continued from page 1

Mr Major says the deal would reverse the centralising features of previous treaties, but Lady Thatcher said yesterday it would lead to a further massive transfer of power to Brussels. "Maastricht is a treaty too far."

She would vote against the ratification Bill in the Lords, she said. She urged Conservative MPs to "vote for because they were answerable to their constituents. She also disputed the disappointment of Jacques Delors as European Commission president as "wrong" and described subsidiarity, the principle of minimum interference which Mr Major wants strengthened, as "gobbledygook".

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said the former prime minister had always argued strongly and then signed up to Community deals during her tenure. "I believe her arguments are to some considerable extent out of date," he said on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend* programme.

Senior Tories said her ability to inspire the backbenches in the Lords is limited.

Thatcher pledge, page 12
Loose cannon, page 14
Leading article, page 15



Sing out: Paul Boateng, David Mellor and Tom Pendry, of the "parliamentarian jazz band", launching Music Day on BBC radio



In harmony: Mick Jagger, originator of the idea, with his wife Jerry Hall at Clapham Common yesterday for the mass concert

MPs and foghorns blast their way to musical stardom

By Alan Hamilton

COURAGEOUS is the only word to describe the participation in one of the big events of National Music Day yesterday of a small band of self-confessed human foghorns. Bearing banners declaring "Tone deaf and proud of it," they emerged from the privacy of their steam-filled bathrooms and mingled with the harmonious thousands gathered on Clapham Common in south London.

At the open-air concert and community singing event they positioned themselves close to the giant loudspeaker banks. When the 1,996 musicians present — amateur, professional and plain duff — were enjoined to launch into Lennon and McCartney's *With a Little Help From My Friends*, the efforts of the foghorns were mercifully drowned out.

John Elenor, their leader and a professional pianist, has, through evening class-

es, taught to sing more than 200 people who were brought up believing they could not manage a note. "Anyone can sing if properly taught," Mr Elenor said, as his choir cleared their throats to tackle *Dancing in the Street*.

National Music Day was marked by more than 1,500 events across the country and was supported by a £100,000 grant from the department of David Mellor, secretary of state for national heritage — and community singing. The event was dreamed up by Mick Jagger, who, now that he is nearly 50, is about to have his lips listed by Mr Mellor's ministry as a national monument.

Mr Mellor, looking nervous, appeared briefly on the stage at Clapham Common, along with an Afro-Caribbean band, a Euro-vision song contest winner and a symphony orchestra, to present prizes to young

musicians, but demurred at giving a solo number. Mr Jagger also declined to perform, being too busy recording the event on a hand-held video camera.

All manner of instruments turned up, from the Central Band of the RAF to Keziah Thomas, 12, who had brought her harp.

The professional musicians on stage and the amateurs out on the grass, combined to perform *I Heard it through the Grapevine* and other pop classics. Their efforts are to be released as a record.

After the concert at Clapham Common the thousands basking on the grass were invited to take part in a karaoke competition, in which people who cannot sing are made to think they can by a machine which provides backing music.

Even the Tone Deaf Society beat a retreat behind the ice-cream vans.

Bullets end dramatic visit

Continued from page 1

"Mitterrand is either crazy or senile; I can't decide," said an evening stroller outside the faded Bellevue Hotel, which served as Mitterrand's overnight accommodation.

The French leader, whose popularity rating at home is low, had arrived on his fascinating mission wearing a crisp dark blue suit. He looked tired but determined, and told the few journalists who met him that he was going "straight to bed" after his long flight from Lisbon.

Not so for the only two accompanying government officials, Bernard Kouchner, minister for humanitarian affairs, and his assistant, M. Mitterrand did not bring any of his own closest aides.

Was the president aware of the dangers involved, and was he afraid, he was asked. "Fear of what?" he retorted. The other members of the ten-man French delegation were two air force pilots and a five-man security detail who looked as worried about their leader's quixotic mission to Sarajevo as the president looked serene and self-confident.

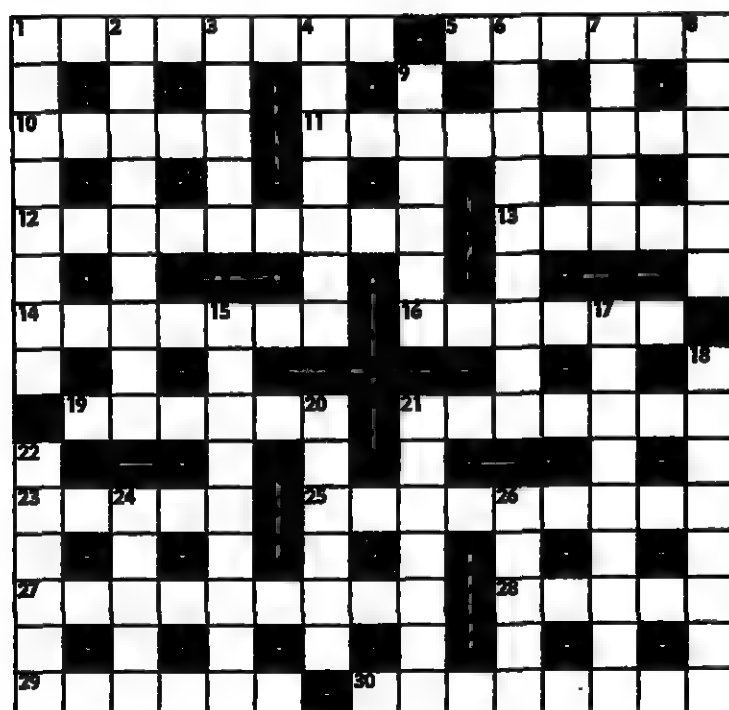
It became immediately apparent that M. Mitterrand had made no advance plans, apart from informing local militia in Bosnia that he intended to overfly their airspace and alerting the Bellevue Hotel clerk to hold him a room.

In the end, the president stayed in a modest two-room apartment suite in the hotel, one floor up from a group of 50 Croatian refugees who have sheltered in the hotel for the past six months.

M. Kouchner, a co-founder of the French relief organisation, Médecins Sans Frontières, and accustomed to high profile missions to the world's trouble spots, spelled out his president's main purpose in visiting Sarajevo. "He is going to try and land at Sarajevo, visit the town, see the people, and bring some hope of reopening the airport for some humanitarian relief."

Asked if he really believed they had a chance of landing without incident at the airport, which had not had a flight in or out in over a month, M. Kouchner replied coolly: "We'll try." He conceded that it was "a considerable personal risk to the President" but added: "It is his personal choice."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,957



- ACROSS**
- 1 Feel best fitted, though the least competent (8).
 - 5 Lay around sick in lodgings (6).
 - 10 Sound forecaster doing a boring job (5).
 - 11 Drink from poor quality china (9).
 - 12 In favour of people turning hands down (9).
 - 13 Historian aware of environmental responsibility (5).
 - 14 The inexperienced driver is not entirely flexible (7).
 - 16 Cast about and find the drink (6).
 - 19 A commercial outlet is coming (6).
 - 21 Pressing takes only a moment (7).
 - 23 Gather for a service in church (5).
 - 25 Explanation given by odious creature — one on the beer (9).

- DOWN**
- 27 Wearing no make-up is foreign (9).
 - 28 Concentrated, being dense (5).
 - 29 Tell of a minister losing his head (6).
 - 30 Person showing a preference for the French or Spanish in part (8).
 - 1 Following decline, a European is for raising the standard (8).
 - 2 Wrote in large letters "Occupied" (9).
 - 3 The sailor naturally embraces a woman (5).
 - 4 It's splendid beneath a tree! (7).
 - 6 The gelatine is in a transparent container (9).
 - 7 Turner's left with two articles (5).
 - 8 Setting the pitch to rights (6).
 - 9 A good-looking, a big shot in the underworld, holding on (6).
 - 15 Didn't budget carefully, so even sport might be affected (9).
 - 17 One may well see his work as play (9).
 - 18 This individual's barely prepared to move in a hurry (8).
 - 20 Give up and go to bed (4,2).
 - 21 Sent in agitated note, being very emotional (7).
 - 22 The way to put a chap right about certain points (6).
 - 24 Thirty days may be quietly accepted by crooked liar (5).
 - 26 Striking serving men is not the done thing (5).



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,956 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

Concise crossword, page 9
Life & Times section

WEATHER

By Philip Howard

NAUTICALS

- GINGERBREAD**
a. Beatty's nickname
b. Sunday mess ratings
c. Ship's decorations
GRTA GARBO
a. A secret submarine patrol
b. Radio silence
c. Racing sails
BILANDER
a. A victorious Dutch admiral
b. A merchant ship
c. A grappling hook cum axe
POCOCK
a. The scuttling cock
b. A marine painter
c. Flag signalling "scatter"

Answers on page 16

ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0835 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE	731
C. London (within N & S Circs)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	734
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M25	735
M-ways/roads M25-M4	736
M25 London Orbital only	737
National	738
National motorways	739
West Country	740
Wales	741
Midlands	742
East Anglia	743
North-west England	744
North-east England	745
Scotland	746
Northern Ireland	747

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

LOOKING UP TIMES

London 9.21 pm to 4.47 am	9.21 am
Bristol 9.31 pm to 4.57 am	9.31 am
Edinburgh 9.42 pm to 5.01 am	9.42 am
Manchester 9.42 pm to 5.01 am	9.42 am
Penzance 9.56 pm to 5.16 am	9.56 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud, f, i, i, m, s, s, s	C	F
Belfast	19	66
Birmingham	24	75
Blackpool	24	75
Bristol	24	75
Cardiff	24	75
Edinburgh	14	57
Glasgow	18	64

TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be closed at the following times today: 1.30pm, 4pm, 6pm and 9pm	
--	--

Today's pollen count forecast is HIGH SELDANE.

A major advance in hayfever treatment.

WEATHER

Mostly dry morning in England and Wales, becoming cloudy, rain or showers, already over Devon and Cornwall, will spread east and north to most parts, becoming heavy higher ground of Wales and the Midlands. East and southeast England will stay dry until late evening. Generally warm and humid with some very high temperatures in parts of the South-East. Outlook: unsettled with further thundery rain.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: 1-hr: under; 2-hr: over; 3-hr: over; 4-hr: over; 5-hr: over; 6-hr: over; 7-hr: over; 8-hr: over; 9-hr: over; 10-hr: over; 11-hr: over; 12-hr: over; 13-hr: over; 14-hr: over; 15-hr: over; 16-hr: over; 17-hr: over; 18-hr: over; 19-hr: over; 20-hr: over; 21-hr: over; 22-hr: over; 23-hr: over; 24-hr: over; 25-hr: over; 26-hr: over; 27-hr: over; 28-hr: over; 29-hr: over; 30-hr: over; 31-hr: over; 32-hr: over; 33-hr: over; 34-hr: over; 35-hr: over; 36-hr: over; 37-hr: over; 38-hr: over; 39-hr: over; 40-hr: over; 41-hr: over; 42-hr: over; 43-hr: over; 44-hr: over; 45-hr: over; 46-hr: over; 47-hr: over; 48-hr: over; 49-hr: over; 50-hr: over; 51-hr: over; 52-hr: over; 53-hr: over; 54-hr: over; 55-hr: over; 56-hr: over; 57-hr: over; 58-hr: over; 59-hr: over; 60-hr: over; 61-hr: over; 62-hr: over; 63-hr: over; 64-hr: over; 65-hr: over; 66-hr: over; 67-hr: over; 68-hr: over; 69-hr: over; 70-hr: over; 71-hr: over; 72-hr: over; 73-hr: over; 74-hr: over; 75-hr: over; 76-hr: over; 77-hr: over; 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655-hr: over; 656-hr: over; 657-hr: over; 658-hr: over; 659-hr: over; 660-hr: over; 661-hr: over; 662-hr: over; 663-hr: over; 664-hr: over; 665-hr: over; 666-hr: over; 667-hr: over; 668-hr: over; 669-hr: over; 670-hr:

BUSINESS TIMES

SPORT
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MONDAY JUNE 29 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

● BUSINESS 19-23

IN THE NEWS

Through the veil of the diplomat

God and Tiny Rowland move in mysterious ways. Small wonder, then, that a few Lomha shareholders sometimes get the two confused.

Consider this coincidence. On Tuesday, June 9, the Libyan ambassador to Tunis travelled to Geneva, where he spent two hours supplying a British chargé d'affaires with detailed information on the extent of Libya's long-standing support for the IRA. The Foreign Office has since indicated that the Libyan information, while not complete, was of good quality.

Two days later, the Department of Trade and Industry formally cleared the £177 million deal under which the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company became one-third owner of Metropole Hotels, the Lomha-owned British hotel chain. Yesterday's enemies, it appears, can become tomorrow's minority partners.

Incidentally, or another triumph for Mr Rowland's brand of desert diplomacy?

Assuming the latter, he clearly remains the master of matters Machiavellian. Which is just as well, for it will require all his deal-making ingenuity to get Lomha out of the recession-hit hole that tomorrow's intimates will confirm. Quite what else can be expected is unclear, especially after the manner of the last full-year announcement which, apart from including the first dividend cut for 20 years, came after normal market hours and several hours after news of the sale of its Kühne & Nagel stake for £118 million.

Rowland: exotic dance

THE recession-hit hole that tomorrow's intimates will confirm. Quite what else can be expected is unclear, especially after the manner of the last full-year announcement which, apart from including the first dividend cut for 20 years, came after normal market hours and several hours after news of the sale of its Kühne & Nagel stake for £118 million.

MATTHEW BOND

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.8965 (+0.0347)
German mark 2.9138 (-0.0059)
Exchange index 93.3 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1963.9 (-42.7)
FT-SE 100 2534.1 (-50.7)
New York Dow Jones 3282.41 (-2.94)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 15812.73 (-707.14)

Home loan debt provisions hit £1.2bn 'and will climb'

BY LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

Wriglesworth: forecast

THE top 20 building societies made bad debt provisions totalling £1.2 billion last year and these are likely to be 25 per cent higher this year, according to a report published today by UBS Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker.

Despite the worst housing recession since the Second World War, John Wriglesworth, the author, forecasts that all the largest 20 societies as well as Abbey National will maintain their strong capital ratios. None of the top 20 societies

will need rescuing in the way that the Town & Country Building Society was by the Woolwich last year, after the intervention of the Building Societies Commission. Similarly, there should be no need for more mergers like that of the Leamington Spa with the Bradford & Bingley, says Mr Wriglesworth. "The few well publicised rescue mergers over the last two years have now cleared the industry of all significant-sized problem societies," says the report.

Should a smaller society need help in the future, it will find it from a larger society, says the report. This is despite claims from the chief executives of leading societies that they will not rescue societies that have paid higher rates of interest on savings or lent unwisely.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester found a worse mortgage book than it expected when it took over the Portsmouth Building Society last year. Debt provisions for the Leamington Spa used up all its reserves. However, both the larger societies involved in the takeovers have expanded their businesses at no cost.

The report, *Building Societies Research: Investing for the Next Millennium*, predicts that house prices will fall by 5 per cent this year and

will rise by 6 per cent next year. It says that over the past five years "the building society industry, including Abbey National, has collectively outperformed the major UK clearing banks in practically all measurable performance areas." They increased their share of the mortgage market to more than 90 per cent last year. Profitability, measured by return on capital for the top 20 societies at 17.8 per cent, was more than twice that of the big four banks at 8.5 per cent last year.

The bad debt provisions relative to advances were 0.7 per cent for the top 20 societies compared with four

banks at 2.8 per cent. Top of the provisions for last year for societies was Town & Country at 2.97 per cent. It had 2.11 per cent of mortgages 12 months or more in arrears. The Bristol & West, which had 2.95 per cent of mortgages 12 months or more in arrears, made provisions of 0.27 per cent of its mortgage book. Chelsea had the second-greatest provisions at 1.91 per cent and had 2.07 per cent of mortgages 12 months or more in arrears, says the report. Bradford & Bingley had 1.87 per cent of mortgages 12 months or more in arrears and made provisions of 0.46 per cent.

Power prices threaten 7,000 jobs at ICI

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries says it will run down and close its £1.5 billion-a-year UK chlorine business, which provides 7,000 jobs and underpins 11,000 others, unless a steep rise in electricity costs is reversed.

Profits at the business, Britain's biggest industrial user of electricity, have been virtually wiped out by the combined effects of recession and a 40 per cent surge in bulk power prices in the wake of the electricity industry's privatisation.

Chris Hampson, a main board director of ICI, said: "If we don't get some relief, what we will see is a progressive closure, a shutdown of the business." Job losses could begin within months, because investment needed to keep the business competitive could no longer be justified.

Bob Hunt, the managing director of ICI Chlor-Chemicals, said ICI was already rejecting some export orders from Australasia and America because it could no longer compete on price. The situation would worsen if power prices continued to rise.

The public warning that the future of the business is under threat follows more than a year of fruitless talks

between ICI and Britain's two biggest electricity groups, National Power and PowerGen. ICI has also made repeated pleas for intervention to ministers, including Tim Eggar, the energy minister.

Mike Brodgen, chief executive of ICI Chemicals & Polymers, said: "The price we are paying for electricity is moving way out of line with the price being paid by our international competitors."

ICI said power price rises in the wake of electricity privatisation were "unnecessary and unjustified, especially in the present economic recession". The company also said the market for electricity, which has been the subject of repeated complaints from large industrial users, was "uncompetitive". The company has been buying its power in the pool, or spot market, and has resorted to halting production at its plants when prices rise.

National Power, Britain's biggest power company, said it had offered ICI power "at contracts which reflect our costs". A spokesman said there was "prima facie evidence that large users abroad do get preferential prices". In Britain, subsidies were prohibited, he said.

Since ICI and its power suppliers are unable to reach

an accord, the government is under growing pressure to intervene. ICI's chlorine business, which exports half its £1.5 billion-a-year output, employs 7,000 people. The company estimates that a further 11,000 people directly depend on it for their jobs.

Closure or contraction of ICI's largest chlorine plant, at Runcorn, Cheshire, which employs 4,000 people, would have a disastrous effect on a local economy already blighted by high unemployment. Another 3,000 people produce chlorine derivatives at Hillhouse, near Fleetwood, Lancashire, at Wilton, on Teesside, and at Lostock, in Cheshire.

ICI is one of Britain's most successful manufacturing companies and the world's third-largest chlorine producer, with a 5 per cent share of world production.

Chlorine is employed in the manufacture of plastics, for industrial cleaning and for purifying water. It is produced by passing electricity through brine. In Britain, electricity accounts for half of production costs.

ICI said it had made strenuous, and successful, efforts to reduce costs in the business, but its achievements had been undermined by the rise in power prices.



Victory gariands: George Blenkinship, Bob Bradbury and Terry Langstroth of the winning management team

Managers complete Vymura buyout

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

MANAGERS at Vymura International, a wallpaper maker, have completed a £15.5 million buyout of the company. The present owner is European Vinyls, a joint venture between Imperial Chemical Industries and Italy's EniChem.

Most of Vymura's products go to do-it-yourself super-

store chains. The Manchester company last year had sales of £30 million. It made heavy losses until 1988, when the present management team took over. Profitability has been achieved but no details have been disclosed. The fact that the purchase price is just over half of turnover suggests that profit margins are

not high. The company was put up for sale because it no longer fitted with European Vinyls' core business. Vymura's consumption of vinyl is said to be negligible.

The management team won against competition from other wallpaper manufacturers in Britain and America. It is led by Tom

Small, managing director since 1988. The managers are contributing a small part of the finance for the deal through second mortgages on their homes and Barclays Development Capital put in £5.5 million in equity capital. The rest is being financed through bank loans and overdrafts.

Every two minutes, one British firm goes bust

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE rate of business failures reached a record peak during the first half of the year. Despite government claims that recovery had begun, 30,722 companies collapsed, according to Dun & Bradstreet, the business information group.

With one British company going out of business every two minutes of the working day, the rate of failures was twice the level of 1990, and far higher than recorded at any stage of the recession at the beginning of the 1980s.

Personal bankruptcies rocketed during the first six months of 1992, to a level 51 per cent higher than during the same period a year ago.

Philip Mellor, the marketing director of D&B, said: "The rate of business failure is continuing to increase and

we see no signs of a let-up in the collapse of small businesses."

However, he said there was some evidence that the rate of failure among larger companies had slowed. During the first quarter of the year, 14,881 companies collapsed. During the latest three months, D&B has already recorded 15,841 company failures, a 6.5 per cent rise.

The rate of company liquidations is 9.8 per cent above the same months a year ago. Much of the overall increase is accounted for by a surge in personal bankruptcies.

Mr Mellor said: "This pattern is following previous recessionary cycles where the pace of failure continues at a high level for one to two years after a recession has ended."

Output forecast to gather momentum

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITAIN'S gross domestic product will show virtually no growth in 1992 on an annual basis, but a significant strengthening of the economy should become evident in the quarterly GDP figures from the present quarter onwards, according to the London Business School's quarterly economic outlook.

In the long term, the economy is likely to return to the 3 per cent growth rates it enjoyed in the early 1980s, but inflation will remain well above the government's target of 2 per cent and unemployment will rise to 3 million early next year.

High trade and budget deficits will continue to dog government policy at least until the middle of the decade, and

exclude any tax cuts before the next election. However, short-term interest rates should fall to about 6 or 7 per cent by 1996.

The LBS forecast, published this morning, often reflects thinking similar to that of Treasury economists. It has GDP rising by only 0.1 per cent this year, compared with 1991. But the forecast's quarterly pattern shows the economy beginning a sustained recovery from the second quarter, which ends this week.

GDP should be 0.6 per cent higher in the second than in the first quarter, and by the second half, the economy should be growing at an annualised rate of more than 3 per cent.

Pointed ears lead auction flop

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON
IN NEW YORK

Taubman: riches cut

IT WAS a bit of a disappointment for Sotheby's, the world's largest auction house. The pair of pointed ears used by Sir Spock in the 1984 film *Star Trek III* failed to make its \$4,500 reserve price. Bids for the HMS Bounty replica of the 1962 remake of the mutiny and put up for sale by Ted Turner, CNN's owner, almost sank without trace. He was hoping for \$2.5 million. Bids barely topped \$1.4 million.

The two lots were part of an auction of Hollywood and Rock 'n' Roll Memorabilia which Sotheby's had hoped would fetch \$2.8 million, but raised just \$608,800. Sale experts say the figure provides a further example of

the effects of recession in America: Sotheby's lost \$5.7 million in the first three months of this year, and made only \$13 million last year. In the heady days of 1989 and 1990, net profits were close to \$100 million. The recessionary effects have also hit Alfred Taub-

man, Sotheby's owner and chairman, whose wealth is tied into the ailing commercial property market through his ownership of shopping malls. His personal fortune has plummeted from \$2 billion to about \$600 million in the past two years.

The falling price of Sotheby's shares this year has cut his riches by almost \$100 million. He is selling more than a third of his stake in a public offering to raise \$100 million and has pledged 58 per cent of his remaining shares as collateral for a loan, believed to be with Citicorp. None of the proceeds from the offer for sale will go to Sotheby's, whose statements say Mr Taubman is raising the money to improve his liquidity.

Mr Taubman, whose office did not return telephone

calls seeking comment, states in official documents that there is very little likelihood of the bank's foreclosing on his Sotheby's shares.

After the share sale, the unencumbered shares held by Mr Taubman will drop from 22 million to just three million shares, or 6 per cent of the total.

The 67-year-old property developer rescued Sotheby's from an unwanted bid in 1983 with an offer of \$47 million. He pocketed \$47 million when he took the auctioneer public again in 1988, and kept 95 per cent of the voting stock.

Sotheby's shares closed on Friday at \$12.125, already \$1.50 below the maximum price at which Mr Taubman is allowed to sell his shares.

Reviving market, page 8

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The fixed component is guaranteed until 1st September 1995. Meanwhile, its variable counterpart - which is at a discount to the lender's normal rate until 31st January 1993 - will move in line with top twenty building society rates.

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Fixed example: John Charcol, both mortgages, aged 25, with an estimated mortgage of £50,000 on a property valued at £75,000, repaid over 25 years, according to the LBS forecast. Gross repayments of £441.39 in each of the first seven months with interest at 9.99% (11.5% APR), followed by gross repayments of £466.18 with the last eight months at their rate of 9.99% (11.5% APR) and, currently, a variable rate of 9.99% (11.5% APR) in each of the next 21 months. Therefore, the fixed monthly gross repayments of £441.39 with interest included, currently 10.7% (12.8% APR). Gross repayments include £25.00 in respect of the buildings and contents premium. Total cost of credit £254,965.87 calculated to include £255 mortgage fee, £200 legal fees, £200 valuation fees, £250-000 secured interest, and £222.500 estimated fees, 200 monthly commitment payments of £55. This is an illustration. The actual underlying premium payable may differ from the amount shown. Buildings and contents premium based on new estimate of £70,000 and lower selling price of £45,000 per £100,000 of mortgage. Completion of buildings and contents is based on £100,000 only. Loan subject to status, age and value of property. Some of the products advertised here are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority 2000 and the rules made for the protection of borrowers by the Act will not apply to them. Credit under loan of up to 25% of the advance may be charged depending on the type of product and credit period. John Charcol is a licensed credit broker.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Lenders face levy on debt advice

BY SARA MCCONNELL

LENDERS could be forced by the government to pay a levy to fund debt advice if they do not voluntarily give more generously over the next two years, Sir George Blunden, chairman of the Money Advice Trust, said today.

Publishing the first annual report of the trust, a charity set up in 1990 to help channel private sector funds into money advice projects, Sir George described the initial response as disappointing. Only £250,000 had been donated, by 19 different organisations, directly to the trust in 1991 — far short of its £3 million target. In addition, the trust had identified £750,000 given by private-sector institutions directly to money advice projects such as the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

Sir George singled out the Midland bank, the Abbey National and the electricity companies for a particularly ungenerous response this year and said: "If by the end of our

third year we don't get the growth we are expecting, we will have to approach the government and ask it to look seriously at the idea of a statutory levy [proposed by the National Consumer Council in February]. We are not simply going to go away. The private sector must support money advice."

Most building societies and the Scottish banks have been conspicuously unwilling to commit money to the trust or directly, despite being told by trustees of the charity that the appeal is not charitable but a call to social responsibility.

Building societies came under pressure from the government at the beginning of this year to give more to fund money advice. Since then only a handful have promised funding. The Woolwich and Bradford & Bingley building societies each pledged £50,000 for 1992 and each of the next two years.



Casting his last piece: Sir Robert Scholey, who will retire as chairman next month

British Steel to unveil big loss

SIR Robert Scholey will need all of his legendary Yorkshire toughness today when he unveils heavy losses at British Steel on the eve of his retirement from the board (Ross Tieman writes).

During his six-year tenure as chairman of the former state steel company, "Black Bob" has endured searing attacks over the run down of the group's Scottish operations. The Ravenscraig works in Motherwell cast its last piece of steel last week.

But the group's losses, expected to top £80 million during the year to end-March, cannot be blamed on Ravenscraig alone. British Steel has been squeezed by surplus capacity and weak prices, and analysts forecast deepening losses during the current year.

Yet Sir Robert's achievements should not be overlooked. He bequeaths his successor, Sir Alistair Frame, a company with a robust balance sheet. In addition, British Steel is now Europe's most efficient producer.

Reporting this week, page 23

NFC puts Pickfords Travel up for sale

NFC, the former National Freight Consortium transport group, has put its Pickfords Travel business on the market in the midst of a serious downturn on the holiday industry. James Watson, the chairman of NFC, confirmed that the group is in talks with one organisation about a purchase of the business, which has 334 high street outlets. Reported to be interested is Vic Fatah, formerly behind the Sunmed and Redwing tour operations. Pickfords Travel was badly hit by the Gulf war, and while some recovery has been achieved, it is unlikely the business is yet back in profit.

NFC, owner of the Pickfords home removal business, which is not involved in the deal, does not believe the holiday industry is a core operation. The company has already sold Pickfords Business Travel for £10 million to the French Wagons-Lits group.

Banking study starts

THE governors of 13 central banks of the countries of the former Soviet Union will arrive in London today for a 12-day seminar organised by the Bank of England. The seminar, which will cover all aspects of central banking, will be held at the Centre for Central Banking Studies, the Bank of England's educational institute, which has provided technical assistance and training for the staff of eastern Europe's new central banks. The visitors include Georgi Mayukhin, the chairman of the Russian central bank, whose country is preparing for flotation of the rouble.

Welsh sales drive

IN an effort to increase the sales of Welsh-made components worldwide, the Welsh Development Agency is expanding its supplier development programme, "Source Wales", which brings together international buyers and Welsh suppliers. Some £75 million worth of contracts are currently being negotiated by 64 Welsh components suppliers. Multinational companies such as Sony, Toyota, Bosch and Northern Telecom are using "Source Wales" as a means of recruiting long-term suppliers manufacturing high quality products.

Utility sell-offs backed

SENIOR directors and managers of privatised utilities believe that privatisation has been good for customers and employees who have kept their jobs, but best for shareholders, according to interviews with 30 senior managers conducted for City and Corporate Counsel, a public relations firm. The managers had found it easier to deal with the City than they expected but most said they had underestimated the impact of regulators on how they ran their business. Comment, page 21

Shore Capital venture

SHORE Capital, a stockbroker 40 per cent owned by British Land, aims to convince the London market that short-term share trading can be safely financed by borrowing. For this purpose, it has set up Shore Capital Finance, which will have a multi-million-pound credit line and, in turn, lend money to its clients.

The minimum loan will be £15,000 and the maximum, for private investors, £350,000. Institutional investors can negotiate more.

Wellcome on track

THE £3 billion Wellcome share sale remains on track, with today's roadshow presentations to British institutions going ahead as planned. A spokesman for Wellcome said there was no truth in weekend reports that the issue might have to be cancelled because of the slide in the Wellcome share price and the volatility affecting international share markets. "The issue will go ahead as planned," he said. Last week Wellcome Trust, the charity, confirmed that it planned to sell around 330 million shares in the drugs company.



Seton sets high profit standards

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

SETON Healthcare has set a scorching pace since flotation in 1990. Placed at 130p, the shares raced to a 313p high this year, reflecting more than just euphoria in the healthcare sector. They closed at 283p on Friday.

Pre-tax profits for the 12 months to end-February, the first full year to include acquisitions since flotation, rose 60 per cent to £4.8 million, with a 15 per cent rise in earnings to 15.2p a share. Acquisitions have been particularly effective in the main healthcare division, which has proved resilient during the recession. Divisional operating profits rose from £3.3 million to £5 million, with operating margins up more than three percentage points to 16.4 per cent. Further margin enhancement is likely as newly-acquired products benefit from access to Seton's distribution channels.

Sports and leisure saw profits fall to £563,000 (£701,000) on weak consumer demand but also reflecting the termination of a distribution agreement with Saucony running shoes. Sports medicine is considered ripe for development.

Gearing at year-end was 42 per cent, with borrowings of £6.5 million. Dominic Wilson, an analyst at Henry Cooke, Lumsden, expects debt to fall by £1 million in the second half, with interest cover exceeding nine times. He forecasts profits of £6.1 million pre-tax this year and £7.6 million next.

A high multiple of almost 16 times' earnings to end-February 1993 reflects the high regard for this company. In the short term the shares appear fully valued but may prove attractive if there is further weakness in the sector.

MARTIN BARROW

US fund wins case against O & Y

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

TWO legal actions by one of America's largest pension funds could thwart hopes by Olympia & York Development, the Canary Wharf developer, of keeping its American operations out of the US bankruptcy courts.

The Teachers' Insurance and Annuity Association — whose assets total \$83 billion — has successfully sued O&Y for a 1983 breach of contract on a loan agreement, is claiming \$120 million in damages and has a second breach of loan agreement case pending. The New York Supreme Court has ruled that O&Y breached its agreement with the association over a \$250 million loan to refinance the World Financial Centre in Manhattan. O&Y borrowed the money in 1984 from Manufacturers Hanover Bank on better terms. The association says the O&Y breach cost it \$120 million. Damages have not yet been awarded.

In its second suit, the association claims O&Y reneged on a \$170 million loan agreement relating to the finance of a Boston development. That case, brought in the Federal District Court, has yet to be heard. O&Y said in a statement that the association's claims for damages were grossly exaggerated.

Banking and property experts believe that O&Y will find it impossible to restructure its \$7 billion of US debts without filing for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in America. O&Y has just raised \$32 million from the sale of its stake in an investment company and says that with the sale, it has enough cash to last it until the autumn.

A restructuring plan for its American lenders details the attempted sale of many of its properties outside New York.

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Utilities suffer credibility gap

The gulf between what managers of privatised utilities report about their performance and the public's perception is astonishing. From telephones to water, the companies report hugely improved standards of service, on statistics set by consumer watchdogs, yet most of the public does not seem to notice and thinks privatisation has achieved little except higher prices. If these industries are to settle down and operate without constant political blight, they will need to work out whether the public is right after all or why their credibility gap is so wide.

Part of the answer undoubtedly lies in the immediate capital gains to shareholders and the sharply rising profits or dividends generally seen in the first years after privatisation. An illuminating study by City and Corporate Counsel interviewed 30 senior managers and polled 1,000 consumers to test the ground. Since this is a public relations company, it is naturally interested in the perceived need for better communications, but the findings are no less revealing for that. Not surprisingly, the managers thought privatisation had produced a pretty good deal for consumers and those employees who had kept their jobs. Less predictably, even they thought shareholders had fared much the best.

Consumers were not at all damning in their criticisms as Opposition and media critics might suppose, but only half found anything positive to say about the results of privatisation, a third of these seeing better service. Nearly two thirds focused on negative effects, with 28 per cent citing price increases. There is still a strong populist view that higher profits must be at the expense of customers, whereas enormous cost savings have been achieved. BT alone is in the middle of a programme that could cut eventually cut up to £1 billion of costs a year.

The public is not being entirely illogical. Half the point of water privatisation was to make customers pay through higher prices for essential capital spending that had been put off in the public sector. Electricity prices were adjusted for privatisation, to raise rates of return and encourage competition. In 1990-1, price limits geared to the retail price index, which was swelled above industrial costs by mortgage interest, brought windfall profits. As one chief executive admitted, some of the first companies to face the switch to the private sector reacted initially by becoming money-grubbing, only later realising they had to satisfy consumers whose expectations had suddenly and rightly been raised. Companies such as British Gas, that were successful in the public sector, were slow to make the cultural change away from being supply-led to focusing on customers.

Such early mistakes linger in people's minds, as did the political unpopularity of the water sale. This is not the full explanation. For instance, while BT correctly scored best with the public on improved service, it was also seen as the worst offender on price, which is the reverse of reality. Real prices have fallen. Water companies are slated for shortages when there are far fewer hosepipe bans.

Part of the answer lies in the managers' own misconceptions. During privatisation, they were much exercised by the need to satisfy City investors. This turned out to be easier than they expected. Meanwhile, many badly underestimated the impact of regulators interfering with their detailed decision-making and found, to their surprise, that they had not escaped the attentions of whole departments of civil servants who continued to shadow them, for ever seeking to tinker with structures fixed at privatisation.

The public wants regulation and therefore sees regulators as protecting them from the companies. The managers see regulators as making their own rules. As one utility's chief noted, customers are now "owned" by the regulators and the companies have to win them back. Another claims that as genuine competition increases, its regulator is becoming more intrusive rather than standing back. The managers have been through an education process. Politicians need to do the same if utilities are not to become as stifled as they were in the state's maw.

EC should look west for direction on single market's next course

The North American experience proves that subsidiarity and federalism are two sides of the same coin, writes Anatole Kaletsky

REFUSAL to learn from the rest of the world is one of the clearest signs of decadence in any nation. Such self-obsession was all too evident in President Reagan's America in the early 1980s, as well as Britain in the 1970s, when many Labour leaders opposed EC membership because it would stop them creating a socialist paradise here. Today, this kind of solipsism is running rampant in Europe. The clearest evidence lies in the great debate over federalism versus subsidiarity that led to yet another embarrassing deadlock between John Major and Jacques Delors at the Lisbon summit.

Last week, instead of going to Lisbon, I spent some time in New York, Colorado and Quebec, where I gave a speech about the future of Europe to the Investment Dealers Association of Canada. The trip recalled to mind a question that had been puzzling me since I returned to Britain from America two years ago. In all the sound and fury about preserving national sovereignty against the encroaching power of Brussels, why does nobody look at the US and Canada, which have been striking a balance between federalism and subsidiarity for 200 years?

A glance across the Atlantic would quickly show that subsidiarity and federalism are two sides of the same coin. Both are enshrined quite clearly in the United States Constitution, as the Supreme Court emphasised again last week. Not only did its much-publicised judgment on smoking involve the tension between state product liability laws and federal health warnings, but also, much more clearly, the court struck down a federal environmental statute that tried to impose responsibilities on state governments for clearing up nuclear waste. This judgment underlined a point familiar to anyone who knows America: even after two centuries of federalism, the 50 American states and the ten provinces of Canada sometimes enjoy far greater internal autonomy than 12 member countries in the EC.

The North American practice of keeping power as close as possible to the people is as widespread in economics as in education and law. In fiscal policy, for example, the Canadian provinces are totally independent of the federal government, running budget deficits that are limited only by the provision of the provinces to accept credit risks. In the US, most states have constitutions requiring balanced budgets, but the definition of balance generally excludes capital spending. Thus state and local borrowing for capital projects has grown steadily, roughly in line with gross domestic product, unrestricted by an all-powerful central treasury, as in Britain, nor by a treaty obligation, as under Maastricht. As in Canada, the scale of local borrowing is ultimately determined by local electors and credit markets. Voters are often consulted on bond issues by referendum, and they are close enough to their local governments to recognise that borrowing today can lead to high taxes — and lower property values — tomorrow.

America shows that the degree of fiscal convergence demanded by the Maastricht Treaty is unnecessary for a successful currency union. It also shows that the 60 per cent ratio of public debt to GDP proposed at Maastricht has rarely been achieved (see chart). But American experience also suggests that a sensible macro-economic policy after EMU will require a big layer of pan-European taxes and government expenditures, to create the automatic fiscal stabilisers that dampen the swings and roundabouts in a modern mixed economy. Unfortunately, as shown in a recent paper by Professor Charles Goodhart of the LSE, the Maastricht fiscal rules, which encourage national governments all to debate or inflate at the same time, are virtually the opposite of those required to stabilise a monetary union.

In attitudes to microeconomic harmonisation, the contrast between American and European federalism is starker still. Since Brussels is

committing its worst offences against national sovereignty not in the name of the Maastricht Treaty, but under the 1992 Single Market Programme, free-market opponents of Maastricht should take note. The campaign to keep as much power as possible at the national level could mean, first and foremost, a major unravelling of the 1992 programme. This would allow the French, Italian and Spanish governments to rig their domestic markets in favour of local businesses, a practice that is denounced and ridiculed by free-marketers in Britain but taken for granted in Canada and the US.

At the IDA conference in Canada, for example, Quebec's finance minister, in a speech lifting delightedly, as is the local custom, from English into French and back again, stated quite casually that his government would favour bond underwriters with a strong business presence in his own province. He added proudly that Quebec's tax system was specially designed to attract foreign investment and that its electricity tariffs were deliberately structured to give its industries a competitive edge. In Canada, it seems not to occur to anyone that blatant interventionism like this ought to be outlawed by the federal government in Ottawa. Americans would similarly laugh out of court the idea that creating a European single market requires

uniform taxes, social and safety standards and financial regulations.

Take harmonising VAT, an obsession in Brussels, where it is claimed that large differences in indirect taxes distort competition by encouraging shoppers to hop across borders and save tax. In America, not only do sales taxes vary from zero to about 10 per cent, depending on states and cities, but tax-avoidance by consumers is positively encouraged by the law. Anything bought by mail-order across state lines is totally exempt from sales tax. Thus someone who lives in New York and wants a \$3,000 computer can save \$250 simply by phoning a mail-order supplier two miles away in Jersey City. Such "unfair" competition has not wiped out retailers in New York, although it has put some pressure on local legislators to stop raising sales taxes. Why then should Brussels impose a minimum VAT rate throughout Europe, or try to make Britain abolish zero-rating?

In laws on banking and insurance, health and safety, employment, takeovers and environmental protection, examples abound where the detailed harmonisation attempted by Brussels goes beyond anything dreamed of in America. In New Jersey, for example, self-service petrol stations are banned to preserve low-wage employment. Trade union and employment protection laws vary dramatically be-

tween the north and south. Texas protected its cotton-growers for many years with health-related restrictions on imports from other states.

Of course, we Europeans can justly ridicule the inefficiency of the American banking system. We may want better employment rights and safety standards than in the American sunbelt. We may object to the self-serving state takeover protections designed to entrench corporate directors. The point is, however, that such issues can be judged on their own merits and left largely to national parliaments. They are not fatal impediments to a European market.

American experience suggests that only three conditions are really necessary for a single market to work: free movement of labour, of capital and of goods. It also shows that a single market does not require a library of detailed bureaucratic directives that try to anticipate every competitive eventuality. The US makes do with a general principle, the inter-state commerce clause of the Constitution: the federal Congress will "regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes".

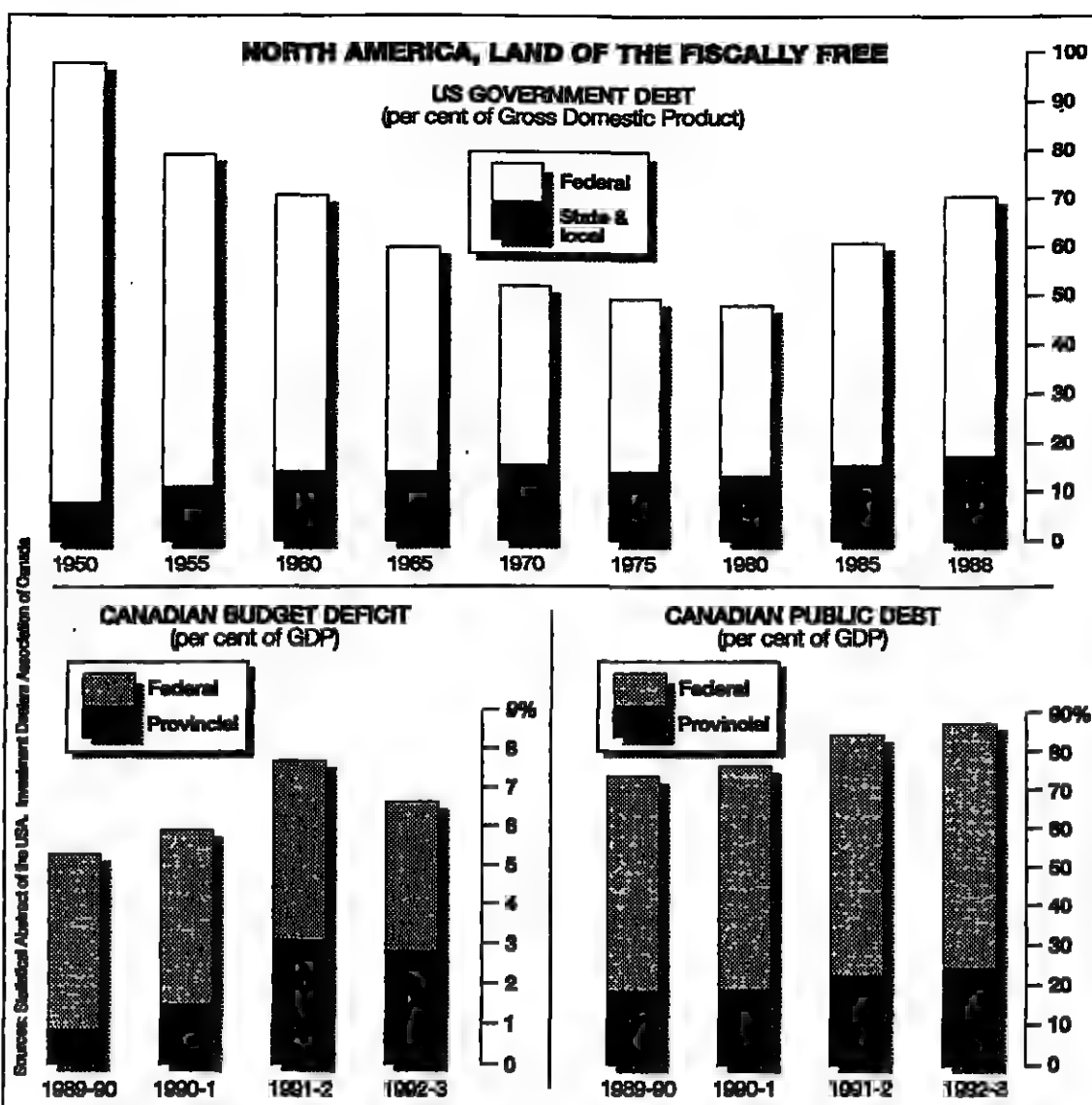
This broad statement of principle, combined with the authority of the Supreme Court to interpret and enforce the Constitution, has enabled American businesses to create a highly competitive single market, without detailed blueprints from bureaucrats.

Admittedly, the American market is only a single market for goods. Many impediments still exist against the supply of services across state lines, ranging from banking and insurance to medicine and law. But as the service sector grows to dominate the American economy, so competition, backed up by the inter-state commerce clause, is leading, slowly but steadily, to the unification of the market for services. The process is not complete, but it is moving irresistibly in the right direction.

As Europe engages in its post-Maastricht soul-searching, a glance at America raises two questions. First, should Europe in one bound try to reach a purer free market than the Americans have created in 200 years? Second, should the remaining steps towards the single market be based on detailed executive directives or the interpretation of very broad principles by the courts?

The Americans have successfully struck a balance between economic federalism and subsidiarity on the basis of two general propositions: the inter-state commerce clause and the tenth amendment to the Constitution. This simply states that "powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people". Since the powers delegated to the federal government are all laid out in Section 8 of the Constitution, a section just 434 words long (about a quarter of this article), there was plenty left for the states to do.

If Messrs Major and Delors want a working definition of subsidiarity that has withstood the test of time, preserved state autonomy, and created the greatest and most competitive single market the world has ever known, they know where to look.



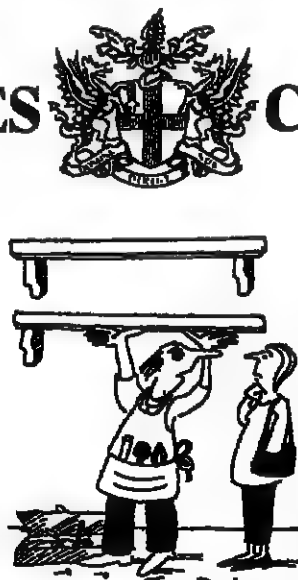
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Other side of the screen

A FLEETING appearance as "someone outside a court" by Gerry Westoby, a former money-market trader, in ITV's *The Bill* should cause several City viewers to do a double-take when the episode is broadcast in the next few months. Westoby, 49, a well-known face around the City, was with Alexander Discount House for 27 years before being made redundant in December. He admits to having "always been a bit of a frustrated actor" and has been earning a crust as a film extra. A foray into advertising, Westoby says, could soon spread his fame yet further when he appears in newspaper advertisements for a high street bank. Westoby's passion for acting began at Mill Hill school in North London where he was a contemporary of Simon Jenkins, editor of *The Times*. Westoby's forthcoming appearances include a part in *Only Two Lumps of Ice* and a television play starring Alan Bates. More philanthropically he will be running in the New York marathon in November in his role as part-time fund-raiser for Whizz-Kidz, the charity that buys electronic wheelchairs for disabled children.

All at sea

CLIVE Forester-Walker, aerospace and defence industry



"Nobody told me the DIY shop changed its mind about Sunday opening."

analyst at Charterhouse Tilney, the stockbroker, is getting something of a reputation for his nautically based presentations that leave share prices bobbing up and down in their wake. Two weeks ago, he gave a bullish presentation to clients on Vosper Thornycroft, the shipbuilder, aboard one of the company's ships in the Solent. Despite a rough ride for passengers, the shares shot up 40p. Forester-Walker has now been at it again, this time treating more than 50 institutional clients to a day out on HMS President on the Thames, where he gave his more bearish views on British Aerospace. Its shares promptly fell 20p to an all-time low of 247p. "No clients were seasick but, unfortunately, the same cannot be said for BAE shares," says Forester-Walker. A keen amateur yachtsman.

he is now planning another Thames boat trip in September. "It's a Charterhouse Tilney event for company and institutional friends and I won't be giving any presentations," he said.

Heads or tails

A NEW 10p coin, due to be introduced on September 30, looks set to bring out the sentimentalist in force. The current 10p coin — the florin as it was once called — is the last of the pre-decimalisation silver and is being replaced with a scaled-down version about the same size as the old 5p coin, phased out two years ago. The job of promoting public awareness and pleasing critics and pressure groups goes to Lesley Brend, a director of Shandwick Communications, the PR firm, who is advising the Treasury and the Royal Mint. Having done the same job in 1990, when the "dodder" 5p was introduced, she is realistic about what to expect. "Whenever a new coin is introduced, people say they don't like it, but six months later they've forgotten they didn't like it and their opinion changes," she says.

SOUND forecasting advice, attributed to a former chief economist of Aubrey G. Lunston, the American investment house: "Give 'em rates, and give 'em dates, but never give 'em both at once."

CAROL LEONARD

Insurance Companies Act could easily be extended to incorporate private-sector pension funds

From Mr R Instone
Sir, Dryden Gilling-Smith (article, June 24) wants a "single supervisory body with simple primary legislation and a lot of discretionary power".

I agree, and the simplest route would be to bring private-sector pension funds within the scope of the Insurance Companies Act 1982. Companies engaged in the grant of pension contracts or pension fund management are already subject to the Act, which could be extended to pension funds without affect-

ing their legal constitution as trusts. This would have the following consequences:

1. The fund assets could only be devoted to activities related to the purposes of the fund itself.
2. The trustees would have to prepare detailed accounts and returns for submission to the Department of Trade and Industry, and fund members would be entitled to copies.
3. Transactions with "connected persons" would be restricted.
4. The DTI would have exten-

sive powers of intervention. The Insurance Division of the DTI already has the necessary experience and staff, though the latter would no doubt have to be increased. Most of the changes required to the Act would be technical in character. It would be better to build on an existing structure than to create a new one. Yours faithfully, MR R. INSTONE, 7 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

No skill in being a name at Lloyd's

From Sir B. Roberts
Sir, Mr John Charnley (Business Letters, June 23) counsels Lloyd's to organise special facilities to assist financially oppressed names "to emulate good companies that take care of their skilled workforce".

In the case of non-working names at Lloyd's, what work and what skills is Mr Charnley talking about? No doubt many Lloyd's names work hard and with commendable skills in their own fields — show-biz, politics, etc. — and are well remunerated accordingly, but so far as Lloyd's is concerned, they are sleeping investors hoping for a substantial profit unrelated to contributions of either work or skill. Bookmakers and their punters are a more appropriate analogy. Yours faithfully, BRYAN ROBERTS, 3 Caroline Place, W2.

From Professor A. West

Sir, I, like other trainers of students and practitioners in management and strategy, have been fascinated by the Lloyd's of London developments which have been well reported in your columns. As a business school exercise, the problems are all too familiar. Poor strategy, limited controls, and an ever rising cost base have led the organisation to its current position. Unfortunately, none of the proposals put forward appear to address these three fundamental issues, with the result that the organisation will inevitably face further problems in the (unlikely) event of the current crisis being overcome. Yours faithfully, ALAN WEST, Webster University, 6 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1.

Clearing the air

From Mr G. Peck
Sir, The Council and employees of Lloyd's of London work in comfort and style in their new building, whilst the rest of the world has to endure the excesses of its lifts, drains and air conditioning ducts. Now we know the message in Richard Rogers' design. Yours faithfully, G. PECK, Brown's Farm, Pound Green, Ramsdell, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

From Mrs T. Singer
Sir, After many years the Stock Exchange finally had to put its house in order and flush out the insider dealers. Now it is time Lloyd's did the same. Yours faithfully, T. SINGER, 2 Woodlake Cottages, Bloxworth, Morden, Nr Wareham, Dorset.

Pensions board lacks watchdog powers

From Sir Jeremy Rowe
Sir, I agree with Dryden Gilling-Smith in much of his article "Wanted: a pension watchdog" (*The Times*, June 24). Where I believe he is mistaken is in his view that the Occupational Pensions Board (OPB) could not be the right body to supervise pension schemes.

The OPB's function at present is to administer the contracting-out requirements for occupational pensions — a much more limited role than that of a pensions watchdog. It has neither the statutory powers nor the resources to do more. Yet the Board includes just those sort of experienced practitioners to whom the correspondent refers. If they had the proper tools they could do an effective job.

Yours faithfully, SIR JEREMY ROWE, Chairman, Occupational Pensions Board, PO BOX 2EE, Newcastle upon Tyne. From D.A. Langford
Sir, Recent correspondence and editorial comment on the better regulation of occupa-

tional pension schemes included the need for the appointment of independent trustees to pension fund trusts.

We strongly support such proposals, but would like to suggest that, for contributory occupational schemes, one or more of the independent trustees should be drawn from actual scheme pensioners. Moreover, the appointment should be from nominees of the pensioners and not simply those of the company management.

Past employees of a company have the widest knowledge of the character of the company and are best able to foresee potential problems which might arise with a fund. Additionally, they are not under the same implicit pressures to which employee trustees may be subjected. Yours faithfully, D.A. LANGFORD, Chairman, ECC (SMT) Pensioners Association, 8 Landrev Road, Boscopa, St Austell, Cornwall.

THE TIMES

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REPORTING THIS WEEK

GEC expected to raise profits

DESPISE poor industrial conditions and concerns over future levels of defence spending, General Electric, the diversified electronics giant headed by Lord Weinstock, is likely to report a relatively solid set of full-year results on Wednesday.

Orders and margins at GEC-Alsthon, the Anglo-French power plants and rail equipment operation, should be developing strongly.

Analysts will be interested to hear how GEC plans to manage its exposure to the defence sector: the group is one of Britain's biggest defence contractors.

Despite the general economic malaise, final pre-tax profits are expected to climb to £820 million, against £818 million last time, according to Credit Lyonnais Laing. Market forecasts range from £815 million to £840 million.

After an unchanged interim dividend, analysts will be keeping a close eye on the final payout, which could be an indicator of GEC's confidence in its short-term prospects. Credit Lyonnais Laing expects earnings per share to edge up to 18.7p (18.6p) and a dividend of 9.55p (9.25p) is predicted, although some think the payout will be maintained.

British Steel, which is chaired by Sir Robert Scholey, is expected today to unveil sizeable full-year losses as the recessionary conditions continue to take their toll.

UBS Phillips & Drew has pencilled in a final pre-tax loss of £100 million, compared with a profit of £234 million last year. Market forecasts range from losses of £50 million to £200 million. A reduced dividend of 4.5p (6.75p) is predicted.

TODAY

Interim: Lovell (Y), Finisar, Adam & Harvey, Alphamatic, Aveco, Berkeley, British Steel, Carlo Engineering, Colson, Hewlett, IR High Income Trust. Economic statistics: insurance and pensions (fourth quarter); new vehicle registrations (May); major British banking groups' quarterly analysis of lending (March-May); London sterling certificates of deposit (May); monetary statistics, including bank and building society balance sheets (May); bill turnover statistics (May); sterling commercial paper (May); money market statistics (May); engineering sales and orders at current and constant prices (April).

TOMORROW

South Western Electricity is expected by Nigel Hawkins, an analyst at Hoare Govett, to generate final pre-tax profits of £83 million, against £62.1 million last time. Market forecasts range from £82 million to £87 million. Mr Hawkins is looking for a dividend of 17.4p (15.2p).

Ian Hilliker, at County NatWest WoodMac, expects interim pre-tax profits at Lorbho, the international trading conglomerate headed by Tiny Rowland, to slump by 72 per cent to £30 million (£109 million).

Market forecasts range from £25 million to £35 million. County is looking for earnings to slide to 1.8p (9.4p) a share, with a halved, but unchanged, interim dividend of 2.5p (5p).

Interim: Barcom, Fyffes, Greenwich Communications, Lonrho, Wharfedale, Brownrigg Industries, Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks, Lowndes Lambert Group, Randfontein Estates Gold Mining, South Western Electricity, Unesco, Walker & Staff Holdings, Western Areas Gold Mining. Economic statistics: finished steel consumption and stock changes (first quarter); personal income, expenditure and savings (first quarter); industrial and commercial companies (first quarter).

WEDNESDAY

Analysts expect Granada, the television and leisure group now headed by Gerry Robinson, to report interim pre-tax profit of between £47 million and £52 million, against £38.5 million last time.

Charter Consolidated, the mining and industrial holding company in which Minroco has a 36 per cent stake, is expected to announce final pre-tax profits of £72.5 million (£77.5 million), according to Credit Lyonnais Laing. Market forecasts range from £70 million to £74 million.

Midlands Electricity is expected to show final pre-tax profits of £135 million, against £96.8 million last time, according to UBS Phillips & Drew. Market forecasts range from £135 million to £140 million. A dividend of 17p (15.04p) is predicted.

Interim: Berleford International, Granada Group. Final: Charter Consolidated, Danae Investment Trust, Europe Energy, General Electric, Jones & Shipman, Midlands Electricity, M&S International, Project Shop.

THURSDAY

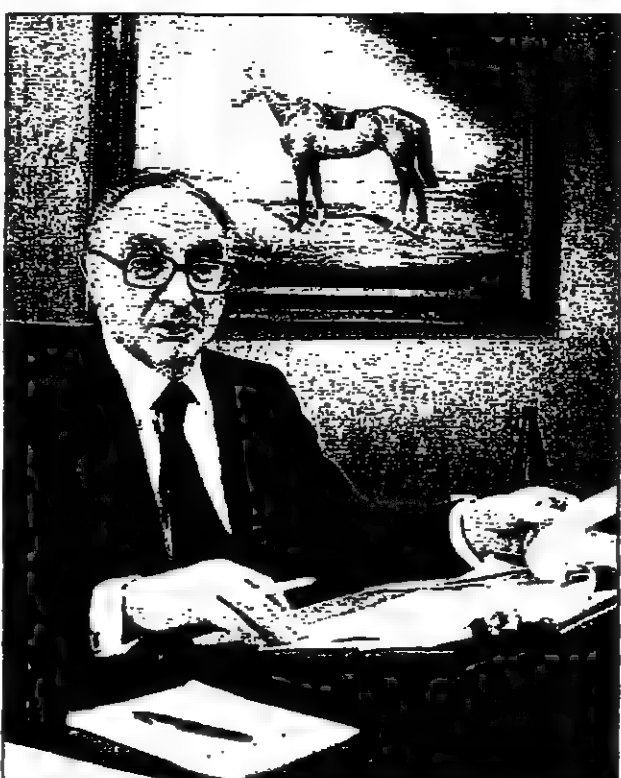
Full-year pre-tax profits at Northern Electric are expected by Hoare Govett to advance to £95 million, compared with £71.1 million last time. Market forecasts range from £96 million to £100 million. Hoare predicts a dividend of 18.5p (16.3p).

Attention may focus on the group's future dividend policy, as the company has high dividend cover and can afford to pay a higher dividend, although it is no doubt concerned about the political and regulatory backlash of such a move.

Interim: Crest Nicholson, Debenhams, First National Finance Corporation, Partridge Fine Arts, Plastic Abstract New Down Investment Trust, Alba, Farepak, Gold Greenless Trott, Markham, Murray Spin Capital Trust, Northern Electric, Sims Food Group.

FRIDAY

Interim: Clyde Blowers, Finisar, Fuller, Smith & Turner, Joseph (Leopold) Holdings.



PHILIP PANGALOS Worries on defence: Lord Weinstock of General Electric

BRITISH FUNDS

THE Bank of England is expected to utilise the gilt market's new-found strength this week by stepping up the government's huge funding programme. Brokers were forecasting on Friday that the bank may be seriously considering issuing further tranches of longer-dated stocks following the success of last week's

biggest-ever issue, the £2.75 billion of Treasury nine per cent 2012A stock. It was more than 60 per cent oversubscribed, which brokers said clearly reflected the underlying strength of the bond market.

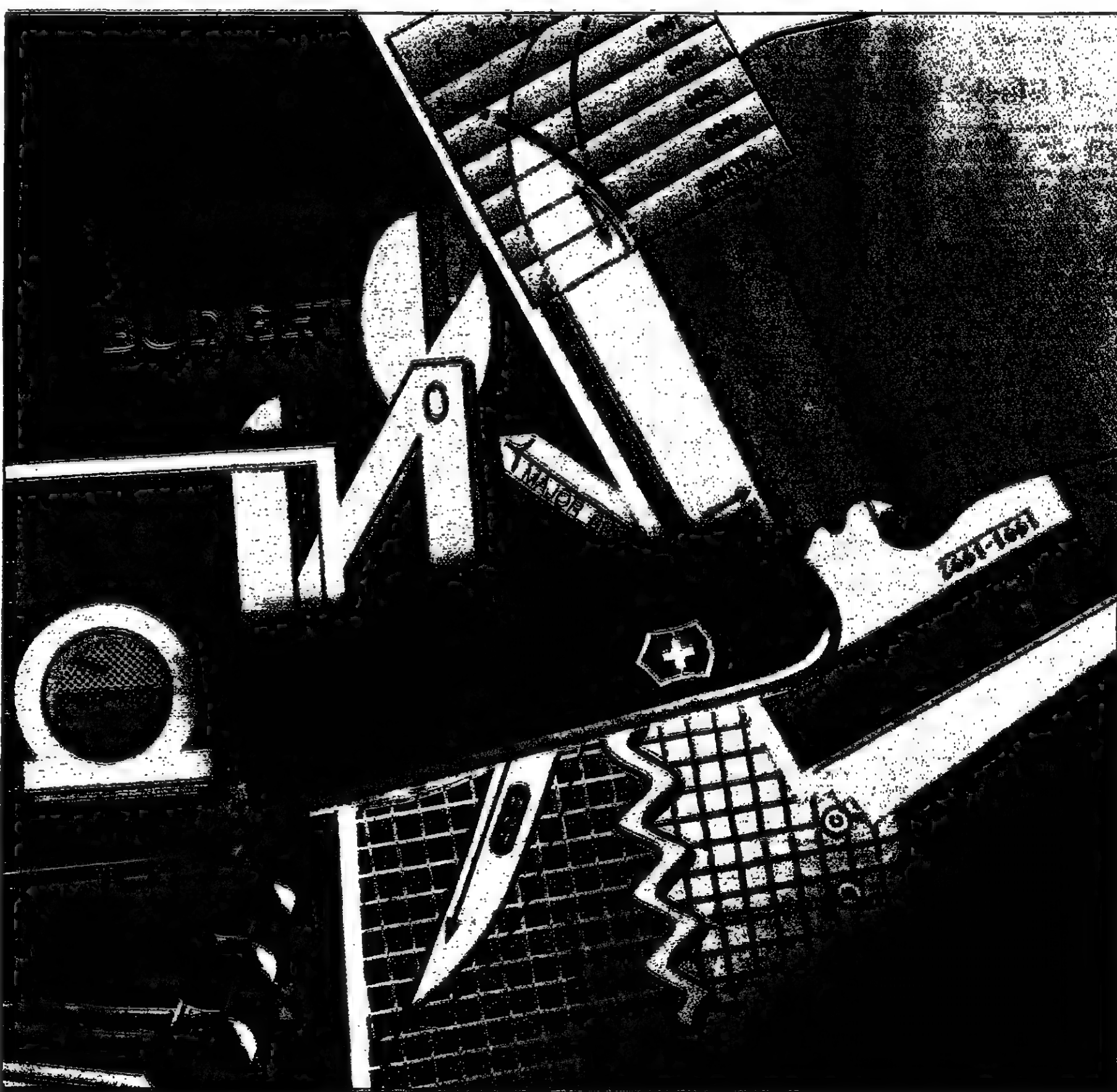
Its return to popularity has been prompted by the decline in equities because of the

economic outlook. Institutions that found themselves scaled down in their applications for the Treasury nine per cent 2012A eventually turned their attention to other longer-dated issues. The absence of significant economic data this week might provide the bank with an opportunity to make its move.

Stock	Outstanding	Stock	Price	Yield	Div	Yield
1,300	12% 1992	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 1993	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 1994	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 1995	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 1996	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 1997	100%	12.30	4.72		
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1,300	12% 2020	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2021	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2022	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2023	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2024	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2025	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2026	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2027	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2028	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2029	100%	12.30	4.72		
1,300	12% 2030	100%	12.30	4.72		

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GILT-EDGED

Affair with Lady of Threadneedle St could end in tears

I read a story recently about a desirable woman with considerable influence over a young man. His infatuation, and her promises of a long and meaningful relationship, led him to devote himself to meeting her desires. The more gifts she received, the more she craved, until he was living beyond his means. Eventually, it was impossible for him to continue meeting her needs. Driven by rage, jealousy and disillusionment, he ended his life.

One need not be a student of English literature to spot the parallels with the gilt market. The demands being placed on the poor investor by the (Old) Lady of Threadneedle Street grow ever more onerous, but still the price is paid and more stock is taken. The promises of tumbling yields echo round the market and incite further purchases of gilts. Despite warnings from some quarters that it may all end in tears when the strain of funding proves too much, the investor remains optimistic.

What, then, are the causes of the market's willingness to believe in further yield falls? Two important reasons are the favourable inflation outlook and the expectation that overseas investors will be persistent buyers of gilts, this year and next.

We expect headline inflation this time next year to be near 3½ per cent (about 4½ per cent excluding mortgages). Significant improvement is expected, in particular, in the stubborn inflation of the service sector.

Further, we think underlying average earnings will fall to 0½ per cent over the next few months, as the March bonus payments drop out of the CSO's three-month smoothing process. If these estimates prove correct, the gilt market will take heart, and yields can begin to fall again.

One should not, however, be tempted to buy so much that one becomes overweight in gilts. The comparison with other bonds is, in some cases, unfavourable. For example,

although French OAT yields are about 50 basis points lower than gilt yields, inflation there is expected to undercut Britain's by a full percentage point over the next year.

A comparative underperformance by gilts is made all the more likely by the stiff funding programme in Britain - French bonds should not suffer from a similar avalanche of supply. France, in contrast to Britain, is stepping up its privatisation programme and its budget deficit is in better shape.

British investors would find it very difficult to compensate for any sustained absence by the overseas buyer. The proportion of fixed-interest securities in domestic fund managers' portfolios has fallen steadily over the past decade. However, we can hardly expect them to be prepared to turn around their portfolios so quickly to accept a substantial majority of the stock offered by the Bank of England over the next few years. The gilt market is probably reliant on overseas investors and international portfolios for more than a third of net gilt purchases in that period.

Investors should appreciate the risk to gilts if the lessening in inflationary pressures does not happen, or if overseas investors stay away. Then, there may come a stage when domestic fund managers will be so full of sterling debt they will resist increasing holdings further. At this point more large sales of gilts may only be possible if there are much better incentives to switch out of cash, for example, an upward sloping yield curve.

Our advice to those still smitten with the gilt market is to prepare to clope with less demanding bond markets, such as France, if things do not turn out as planned. Those able to escape the Old Lady's spell may, in the longer run, live more happily ever after.

STEPHEN SCOTT
Kleinwort Benson

Wimbledon 1992: the state of play after the first week of the championships

McEnroe's magic highlights six breathtaking days

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

WIMBLEDON is the only grand slam tournament to keep the middle Sunday free for a day of rest and, whatever the unique emotions aroused last year, the tradition has rightly been restored this time.

After six days of hectic, intense competition, which frays tempers and adds minds, everyone needs a moment to reflect and prepare for what Goran Ivanisevic has called "a new tournament" this week.

It has been a breathtaking first six days, marked by the brooding brilliance of John McEnroe and Pat Cash, punctuated by upsets and unexpected triumphs for Britain's Jeremy Bates, and, according to IBM's statistics for *The Times*, dominated far less by services than 12 months ago.

By far the greatest surprise has been the defeat, on Saturday, of Jim Courier, the world No. 1 and top seed, by Andrei Olhovskiy, a Russian ranked 193, who had lost in the first round of his last five tournaments.

Courier's enormous confidence, his unbeaten grand slam record this year and his 25 consecutive victories counted for nothing against an opponent whose mediocre pedigree belied an instinctive grasp of the geometry of lawn tennis.

The Russian took a set off Boris Becker last year, so the warning signs were there.

Courier was as gracious in defeat as he was straggly in victory at the French Open earlier in the month. Though he would never admit it, there might even be a tinge of relief mixed with his champion's disappointment. No more questions about grand slams, for another year, at least.

Because he will always be heavily involved in the French Open, Courier is going to be vulnerable at Wimbledon in the early rounds, just as Borg was. Asked what quality you needed to do the grand slam, Courier replied: "Luck." The luck not to come across an Olhovskiy playing out of his skin on your least favourite surface.

At a stroke, defeat for Courier, the first top seed to be beaten by a qualifier in the open era, opens up tantalising possibilities for the most celebrated qualifier of them all. In 1977, in his first Wimbledon, McEnroe reached the semi-final as a qualifier and it would be a neat twist to the tale if he could return to the last four again, 15 years on, in possibly his farewell year.

Suddenly, Cash v McEnroe.

WIMBLEDON COMPARISONS		
	1991	1992
Men		
Aces as percentage of total pts	9.1	6.8
Unreturned serves as percentage of total pts	37.8	32.2
Service breaks as percentage of chances	33.0	36.5
Average games per break	6.1	5.2
Average points per game	6.1	6.3
Average points per match	215.3	233.2
Average games per set	11.4	9.6
Average games per match	39.5	37.2
Women		
Aces as percentage of total pts	3.3	2.5
Unreturned serves as percentage of total pts	22.0	22.5
Service breaks as percentage of chances	46.5	39.6
Average games per break	2.9	2.6
Average points per game	6.4	6.1
Average points per match	114.4	97.5
Average games per set	11.4	7.9
Average games per match	17.3	15.9

Statistics compiled by Bill 1992 figures are from 30 matches sampled on the show courts

which seemed at the time no more than an exhibition from the archives, a brilliant but irrelevant contest between two former champions vying for the right to be beaten by someone else, has been turned into something much more significant. The ease with which McEnroe swept aside David Wheaton, a semi-finalist here last year, to reach the fourth round prompted all sorts of improbable thoughts.

In his prime — and he is not far off that now — neither Olhovskiy, his opponent today, nor Guy Forget or the new national hero, Bates, potential quarter-final opposition, would hold any fears for him. Beyond that, who knows? Andre Agassi or Boris Becker, perhaps.

Becker apart, most of the really big cruises — Michael Stich, Pete Sampras, Stefan Edberg and Goran Ivanisevic — have been floating menacingly through the bottom half of the draw. The defending champion has not been thoroughly convincing yet but then nor was he during the opening week last year.

He was desperately nervy for two sets against Amos Mansdorf and his contention that he is playing more conservatively this year is understandable but worrying. He must now throw caution to the wind again.



Graf pushed hard

Interestingly, only eight seeds have survived to the last 16 in both men's and women's draws, undermining accusations of predictability in the women's game. The week ended with Steffi Graf, of all people, being pushed to the limit by Marianne D. Swartz, ranked 76.

Figures based on 30 show-court matches — 15 men's, 15 women's — from the first three rounds do not reflect so well on the competitiveness of the women's game. While the average games per set in a men's match is 9.6 — between 6.3 and 6.4 — it is below 6.2 for the women, which makes a mockery of calls for a best-of-five set format throughout the seven rounds of a grand slam.

Consideration, though, should be given to playing the semi-finals and finals over five sets. At its best, women's tennis is as subtle and colourful as the men's game; at its worst, it can be brutal and boring. It would be a merciful relief if some men's matches ended after two sets. Quantity does not guarantee quality.

Despite the antics of Ivanisevic, the guardians of the International Tennis Federation should note that, thankfully, the service has been less of a force in men's singles so far this year.

Figures show there have been a quarter fewer aces, services have been broken more often and games have been better contested. That is partly a reflection of the courts, which are harder and of truer bounce than last year.

Both draws are finely balanced, with old warriors like Navratilova and McEnroe jousting with Monica Seles, Agassi and a host of new names — Olhovskiy, Naoko Sawamatsu, Yayuki Basuki and Christian Saccanu — to take the titles away from Stich and Graf.

It may be a new tournament this week but the crowns will remain on familiar heads come next weekend.

MEN'S SINGLES					
First round	Second round	Third round	Fourth round	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals
(1) J. COURIER (US) bt M. Zvereva (Ger) 6-2 6-2 6-3	J. COURIER bt B. Black 6-4 6-1 6-4				
B. Black (Zim) bt F. Fontang (Fr) 6-2 7-5 6-1	A. Olhovskiy bt J. COURIER 6-4 6-1 6-4				
K. Kinner (US) bt C. U. Stead (Ger) 7-6 6-2 6-7 6-1	A. Olhovskiy bt K. Kinner 6-4 7-6 6-3				
A. Olhovskiy (CS) bt J. Stark (US) 6-4 3-6 6-3 3-6 7-5					
P. Cash (Aus) bt J. Eltingh (Hol) 6-4 6-4 7-6	J. McEnroe bt P. Cash 6-7 6-4 6-7 6-3 6-2				
J. McEnroe (US) bt L. Mattar (IS) 5-7 6-1 6-3 6-3	J. McEnroe bt D. Wheaton 6-3 6-4 6-4				
T. Martin (US) bt H. de la Pena (Arg) 6-1 6-0 6-3	D. Wheaton bt T. Martin 6-3 6-3 6-7 6-3				
(16) D. Wheaton (US) bt F. Clavel (Sp) 6-3 6-3 6-3					
G. Forget (Fr) bt A. Moroz (Ger) 6-3 3-6 7-5 7-6	G. Forget bt A. Jarryd 4-6 6-3 3-6 6-3 10-8				
A. Jarryd (Aus) bt C. Bailey (GB) 6-4 6-3 6-0	G. Forget bt H. Leconte 7-6 6-3 3-6 6-3				
B. Karbacher (Ger) bt R. Gilbert (US) 2-6 7-5 2-6 6-4 6-4	H. Leconte bt B. Karbacher 7-5 6-2 7-6				
H. Leconte (Fr) bt R. Azar (Arg) 6-3 6-0 6-3					
L. Lavalle (Mex) bt A. Castella (GB) 6-4 6-0 7-6	T. Champion bt L. Lavalle 7-6 6-3 5-7 7-5				
T. Champion (Fr) bt R. Rensberg (US) 6-7 6-4 3-6 7-6 6-3	J. Bates bt T. Champion 7-5 6-4 6-7 4-6 6-4				
J. Sanchez (Sp) bt G. Raux (Fr) 6-4 7-6 5-7 3-6 9-7	J. Bates bt J. Sanchez 7-6 6-3 6-4				
J. Bates (GB) bt M. Chang (US) 6-4 6-3 6-3					
(4) B. Becker (Ger) bt O. Comares (US) 7-5 6-3 7-5	B. Becker bt M. Damm 4-6 6-4 6-4 3-6 6-3				
M. Damm (CS) bt C. Pichler (Ger) 6-4 6-4 6-4	B. Becker bt B. Shalton 6-4 3-6 7-6 7-6				
B. Shalton (US) bt K. Quisen (US) 6-3 7-6 6-6 4-6 9-7	B. Shalton bt O. Delaire 7-6 6-3 6-3				
O. Delaire (Fr) bt R. Leach (US) 6-1 7-6 3-6 3-6 6-2					
L. Herrera (Mex) bt J. Connors (US) 6-2 1-6 7-5 6-3	L. Herrera bt S. Matsuda 6-4 6-4 5-7 4-6 6-3				
S. Matsuda (Japan) bt M. Washburn (US) 6-4 6-1	W. Ferreira bt L. Herrera 7-6 6-1 4-6 6-0				
C. van Rensburg (SA) bt J. Tarrago (US) 7-6 6-4 7-5	W. Ferreira bt C. van Rensburg 6-3 6-3 6-7 6-3				
(14) W. Ferreira (SA) bt J. Tarrago (US) 6-2 6-2 6-7 7-5					
(12) A. Agassi (US) bt A. Chankov (CS) 6-7 6-1 7-5 7-5	A. Agassi bt E. Messo 4-6 6-1 6-3 6-3				
E. Messo (Bel) bt N. Koon (Swi) 6-7 6-4 6-2 2-6 6-4	A. Agassi bt D. Rostagno 6-3 7-6 7-5				
J. Yzagre (Peru) bt M. Gorz (Sp) 6-4 6-4 6-2	D. Rostagno bt J. Yzagre 6-3 6-3 6-1				
D. Rostagno (US) bt T. Carbonell (Sp) 2-6 6-1 6-1 6-2					
C. Pichler (Fr) bt C. Pichler (US) 6-3 3-6 6-3 7-5	C. Saccanu bt C. Pichler 4-6 6-4 0-6 7-5 7-5				
C. Saccanu (Fr) bt G. Marquis (Arg) 7-5 6-3 2-6 7-5	C. Saccanu bt J. Hasek 7-6 3-6 6-3 1-6 6-3				
J. Hasek (Swi) bt M. Schapers (Hol) 6-4 6-3 6-2	J. Hasek bt P. Korda 4-6 3-6 6-3 7-6 16-14				
(8) P. Korda (CS) bt C. Bergstrom (Swi) 7-5 7-6 6-4					
(6) P. Sampras (US) bt A. Chankov (CS) 6-1 6-3 6-3	P. Sampras bt T. Woodbridge 7-6 7-6 6-7 6-4				
T. Woodbridge (Aus) bt F. Rouse (US) 6-2 7-5 6-4	P. Sampras bt S. Davis 6-1 6-0 8-2				
K. Braasch (Ger) bt D. Nijssen (US) 6-3 3-6 6-7 7-5 6-3	S. Davis bt K. Braasch 6-7 7-6 7-6 6-3				
S. Davis (US) bt C. Messori (Swi) 6-1 6-3 6-3					
F. Roly (Sp) bt C. Messori (Swi) 6-2 6-3 6-4	A. Boatsch bt F. Roly 6-4 6-2 8-2				
A. Boatsch (Fr) bt J. Grubb (US) 7-6 7-5 6-4	A. Boatsch bt R. Krajicek 4-6 7-6 3-6 7-6 6-2				
P. Hearn (Hol) bt J. Stettenberg (US) 6-3 7-5 4-6 4-6 7-5	R. Krajicek bt P. Hearn 7-6 6-3 6-1				
(11) R. Krajicek (Hol) bt J. Delagrè (SA) 7-5 6-1 6-2					
(13) B. Gilbert (US) bt J. Flaudin (Fr) 6-2 6-3 6-2	B. Gilbert bt S. Voul 6-1 7-5 7-5				
S. Voul (Aus) bt R. Fromberg (Aus) 6-2 6-3 0-1 Ret	W. Masur bt B. Gilbert 6-3 6-7 6-7 6-4 6-2				
W. Masur (US) bt L. Jonsson (Swi) 6-2 6-2 6-1	W. Masur bt N. Kowles 6-3 6-4 7-6				
N. Kowles (Bel) bt M. Kowles (Hol) 6-2 6-1 6-3					
C. Costa (Sp) bt C. Limberger (Aus) 6-1 4-6 5-7 6-3 6-3	M. Larsson bt C. Costa 7-5 6-3 6-7 6-4				
M. Larsson (Swi) bt J. Franca (Arg) 6-3 7-6 6-4	M. Stich bt M. Larsson 6-4 3-6 6-3 7-6				
A. Mansdorf (Ger) bt M. Nemecek (Ger) 6-3 7-6 6-4	M. Stich bt A. Mansdorf 4-6 7-6 6-3 6-3				
(2) M. Stich (Ger) bt S. Pasosch (CS) 6-3 6-3 6-2					
(9) G. Ivanisevic (CS) bt L. Koschowski (Ger) 6-2 6-2 6-3	G. Ivanisevic bt M. Woodforde 6-4 6-4 6-7 6-3				
M. Woodforde (Aus) bt J. Slemmer (Hol) 6-3 6-2 3-6 7-5	G. Ivanisevic bt M. Rosset 7-6 6-4 6-4				
M. Rosset (Swi) bt A. Richardson (GB) 6-2 6-4 6-4	M. Rosset bt M. Patchay 7-6 6-2 6-3				
M. Patchay (GB) bt D. Randall (US) 7-6 6-2 6-7 6-3					
S. Stolle (Aus) bt K. Novacek (CS) 7-5 6-6 Ret	S. Stolle bt C. Wilkerson 3-6 6-4 7-6 6-4				
C. Wilkerson (GB) bt G. Pozzi (US) 6-3 6-3 2-6 7-6	I. Lendl bt S. Stolle 6-3 1-6 2-6 6-3 7-5				
A. Thomas (Ger) bt T. Witsken (US) 6-2 2-6 6-2 6-2	I. Lendl bt A. Thomas 7-6 7-6 1-6 7-5				
(10) I. Lendl (CS) bt P. Krumm (Ger) 6-1 7-6 7-6					
(15) A. Volkov (CS) bt E. Sanchez (Sp) 6-3 6-2 4-6 6-2	A. Volkov bt B. Stankovic 6-4 7-5 6-3				
B. Stankovic (CS) bt A. Foster (GB) 6-2 6-4 6-3	H. Holm bt A. Volkov 6-4 3-6 6-3 7-6				
N. Kuti (Swi) bt G. Lopez (Sp) 6-0 6-0 6-1	H. Holm bt N. Kuti 6-1 6-2 6-2				
H. Holm (Swi) bt G. Doyle (Aus) 6-3 6-2 6-2 6-4	G. Stafford bt J. McEnroe 6-4 7-6 2-6 6-2				
P. McEnroe (US) bt F. Montana (US) 6-4 6-1 6-1	S. Edberg bt G. Stafford 6-1 6-0 6-2				
G. Stafford (SA) bt T. Muster (Aus) 6-3 6-3 7-6	S. Edberg bt G. Muller 7-6 6-3 7-5				
G. Muller (SA) bt M. Ondruska (SA) 6-7 6-3 7-6 6-3					
(12) S. Edberg (Swi) bt S. Bryan (US) 6-1 6-3 6-0					

CYCLING

Boardman dispels the doubts

BY PETER BRYAN

THE doubts Chris Boardman had about successfully defending his national 50-miles title at Tiverton, Devon, yesterday were valid. He is finishing his preparation for the Olympic 4,000 metres track pursuit and his training is for speed rather than endurance.

But Boardman's tinge of pessimism was unnecessary. He kept the title on a day when all his rivals appeared to be going backwards, set a championship record of 1hr 43min 15sec and made mince-meat of the course record of 1hr 53min 47sec.

After Geethin Butler, his closest challenger, retired because of sickness at the halfway point, Boardman remained well clear.

His fellow Olympian, Matthew Lillingworth, riding his first 50-miles trial, was in second place in ten miles, half a minute down, and remained there to the finish, 5min 24sec in arrears.

Boardman found it hard cycling into the wind on the final 20 miles, which took a riding time of 43min 43sec, compared with his opening 20 miles in 40min 45sec.

Throughout the trial Boardman's heart-rate, which is 42 at rest, was generally 175, but it dropped to 160 on the hard stretches into a head wind.

RESULTS: 1. C. Boardman (GS Strada), 1hr 43min 15sec (championship record); 2. M. Lillingworth (GS Strada), 1hr 48min 25sec; 3. S. Dargatzis (Lao RC), 1hr 49min 45sec; 4. P. Longbottom (GS Strada), 1hr 49min 55sec; 5. G. Depina (Manchester Wheelers), 1hr 51min 21sec; 6. A. Dawson (GS Strada), 1hr 52min 28sec; 7. S. Strada (Boardman), 1hr 52min 41sec; 8. Longbottom (GS Strada), 1hr 52min 41sec.

BOXING

Eubank drops principles to take up rematch with Benn

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN QUINTA DO LAGO

CHRIS Eubank, who has been floored only once in his 32-bout career, was brought to his knees once again on Saturday — not by Ron Essett, his opponent here, but by his own venality. After claiming that he would never defend his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title against Nigel Benn unless paid £1.6 million, he agreed to the bout for "far less".

Neither he nor his promoter, Barry Hearn, would say how much he had accepted. "I'm negotiating with Benn and it won't be right to tell you what Chris is getting," Hearn said. But he did say that a split of £750,000 for Eubank and £250,000 for Benn would not be far off. If Benn accepts the bout, it will take place at Queen's Park Rangers' Tottenham Hotspur's football ground on September 26.

The figures make a neat £1 million, but it will mean that far from getting his £1 million tax-paid, Eubank will end up with a mere £400,000, or even less after the tax man and others have taken their cut.

It all adds up to a humiliating climbdown for Eubank. He further compromised his "principles" by admitting that the tabloids, a group for which he has no respect, had forced his hand. As a result of the public clamour for a rematch with Benn, they had orchestrated, his "manhood" had been questioned.

He said: "I have reached a compromise because people have started to question my manhood. If there is one

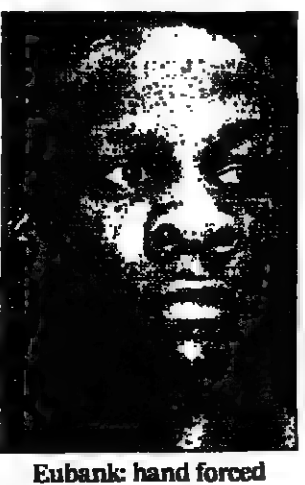
person who questions my manhood, that must be put right. The papers have swung the balance. Money becomes secondary when somebody is questioning someone's pride."

Whether or not he is successful in upholding his "manhood" against Benn, his backing down will not have helped his image. Eubank has tried to lift himself above the "blood business" of boxing by presenting himself as a man of principle. He has said about the bout with Benn: "There is a principle here. I want to set it for £1.6 million. If I don't get it, I promise you it [the bout] won't happen."

In an exclusive article in *Badging News* he had said: "My price for the rematch is £1.6 million. If I don't get it, I'll throw in the title. I don't mean anything. I'll still be 31-0; I'll still be The Man; I'll start from the bottom again... that's good for the soul."

No doubt, as a result of being unable to get to grips with Essett, Eubank is glad that he has not given up his title to chase others in the hands of more elusive champions. The bout with Benn will come as a relief to him. He is happiest when his opponents come to him, and that Benn will do. He has been looking for Eubank for 18 months and will welcome the champion's decision to give him another chance.

Gorle, Italy: Wilfredo Vazquez, of Puerto Rico, showed commanding form to retain the World Boxing Association super-bantamweight title with a decisive points victory over Freddy Cruz, of the Dominican Republic here yesterday.



Eubank: hand forced

TODAY'S ORDER OF PLAY

Singles start on Centre court and Court one. Court one starts at 12.30.

COURT ONE: J. Bates (GB) v Y. Basuki (Indo)

COURT TWO: A. Olhovskiy (CS) v J. McEnroe (US)

COURT THREE: P. Sampras (US) v J. Sanchez (Sp)

COURT FOUR: T. Champion (Fr) v J. Bates (GB)

COURT FIVE: B. Karbacher (Ger) v R. Gilbert (US)

COURT SIX: S. Davis (US) v C. Messori (Swi)

COURT SEVEN: P. Korda (CS) v J. Hasek (Swi)

COURT EIGHT: M. Stich (Ger) v A. Mansdorf (Ger)

COURT NINE: T. Woodbridge (Aus) v F. Rouse (US)

COURT TEN: S. Stolle (Aus) v C. Wilkerson (GB)

COURT ELEVEN: I. Lendl (CS) v A. Thomas (Ger)

COURT TWELVE: A. Volkov (CS) v B. Stankovic (CS)

COURT THIRTEEN: H. Holm (Swi) v G. Doyle (Aus)

COURT FOURTEEN: P. McEnroe (US) v F. Montana (US)

COURT FIFTEEN: G. Stafford (SA) v T. Muster (Aus)

COURT SIXTEEN: S. Edberg (Swi) v S. Bryan (US)

COURT SEVENTEEN: J. Stark (US) v D. Graham (US)

COURT EIGHTEEN: J. Bates (GB) v Y. Basuki (Indo)

COURT NINETEEN: A. Olhovskiy (CS) v J. McEnroe (US)

COURT TWENTY: P. Sampras (US) v J. Sanchez (Sp)

COURT TWENTY-ONE: T. Champion (Fr) v J. Bates (GB)

COURT TWENTY-TWO: B. Karbacher (Ger) v R. Gilbert (US)

COURT TWENTY-THREE: S. Davis (US) v C. Messori (Swi)

COURT TWENTY-FOUR: P. Korda (CS) v J. Hasek (Swi)

COURT TWENTY-FIVE: M. Stich (Ger) v A. Mansdorf (Ger)

COURT TWENTY-SIX: T. Woodbridge (Aus) v F. Rouse (US)

COURT TWENTY-SEVEN: S. Stolle (Aus) v C. Wilkerson (GB)

COURT TWENTY-EIGHT: I. Lendl (CS) v A. Thomas (Ger)

COURT TWENTY-NINE: A. Volkov (CS) v B. Stankovic (CS)

COURT THIRTY: H. Holm (Swi) v G. Doyle (Aus)

COURT THIRTY-ONE: P. McEnroe (US) v F. Montana (US)

COURT THIRTY-TWO: G. Stafford (SA) v T. Muster (Aus)

COURT THIRTY-THREE: S. Edberg (Swi) v S. Bryan (US)

COURT THIRTY-FOUR: J. Stark (US) v D. Graham (US)

COURT THIRTY-FIVE: J. Bates (GB) v Y. Basuki (Indo)

Spanish golfer claims first tour success

Martin makes the most of startling slip-up from Faldo

FROM MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

MIGUEL Martin, of Spain, won the French Open here yesterday as Nick Faldo astonishingly wilted under a hot sun at the Le Golf National.

Faldo suffered the acute embarrassment of dropping five shots in his last five holes. The British Ryder Cup player blamed officials for their failure to police photographers, journalists, television personnel and recorders. "There should be only four players on the fairway — the two players and the two caddies — and the rest should be an arms' length from the ropes," Faldo said. "I brought this up at a Ryder Cup meeting and my proposal has not been adopted."

"There were more than 100 moving about today and it wore me out. I was brain dead by the 17th and I thought 'so what, it's gone', and took three putts."

Faldo's demise opened the door for Martin, a professional since 1981, to win for the first time on the PGA European Tour. He scored 69 for a total of 276, eight under par, for which he earned £66,660.

Martin has had his share of misfortune in his ten years as a professional, although he was the first to admit that, on this occasion, he benefited from Faldo's benevolence. "I was lucky," he said. "I was perturbed throughout and my putter saved me. I had 11 single putts."

In fact, Martin is doing himself an injustice because he played the last five holes in 19 shots, one under par, whereas Faldo took 25. Even so, Faldo should have won this championship in a canter. He held a two-stroke lead walking off the 13th green, where he had holed from nine feet following an authoritative approach. It was then that Faldo lost his way. He pulled his drive into the rough at the 14th and hit his next into a bunker, from where he fired over the green. He did well to get down in three for a six.

At the 15th, Faldo, using an iron this time, again pulled his tee-shot into calf-deep rough and had to come out sideways. He struck a glorious third shot over the water to eight feet, from where he missed.

Faldo had a chance of a two at the 16th but he missed from 18 feet. Martin, playing ahead, completed his round with a nine-iron to five feet for a birdie at the 18th. Faldo needed a birdie at one of the last two holes to force a play-off but he took three putts at the 17th, where he left his first attempt, from 32 feet, some seven feet short.

Then the now subdued spectators watched almost in disbelief as Faldo took six at the 18th, where he almost skinned his recovery from a bunker into the water. "That topped it all — having a stone under the ball," Faldo said.

In Faldo's defence the marshalling was poor. There was a patriotic atmosphere with Faldo being partnered by Eric Giraud, the young French golfer. Spectators were politely asked not to use cameras but it was to no avail.

The irony is that the one official photographer to have taken from him the bib, which gives him a place on the fairways, was working for the sponsors, Peugeot. Faldo is reported to have been paid £120,000 to compete this year and next.

Faldo must be concerned that in three successive tournaments he has failed to play his best in the final round. He scrambled into a play-off, which he won, for the Irish Open with a 75; he took 77 in the US Open and his 74 here means he is 11 over par for those three last rounds.

It suggests that Faldo is as fallible as any professional and I suspect he, too, will be questioning his own play. Martin Poxon, however, benefited to the tune of £44,440, his biggest pay-day, as he took second following a 65 for 278. Faldo shared third place with Constantino Rocca (66), of Italy. "It feels like Christmas in June," Poxon said. If that was the case, then Faldo was a very despondent Santa Claus.

Davies finds touch

Musick: Laura Davies completed a timely victory when a closing round of 72 earned her a thirteenth title in the European Open championship at Buerberg in Munich yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes).

Davies, from Surrey, a former British and US Open champion, finished with an 11-under-par total of 285, two strokes clear of Catrin

Nilmark, of Sweden. Sandrine Mendiburu, of France, shot 68 to finish third three strokes further behind.

"My rhythm has been good all week and my putting touch has returned. My next two tournaments are big ones, the Hennessey Cup and the US Open. I am now looking forward to them," Davies said after her first win of the season.

Trophy requires low scoring

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

SCORING that matched the scorching conditions ensured that Great Britain and Ireland retained the St Andrews Trophy, defeating the Continent of Europe by 14 points to ten at Royal Cinque Ports, Deal, on Saturday.

George Macgregor, captain of the winning team, said he had never seen better sustained scoring. The adage of par being good enough to win most matches took a hammering, as illustrated by Ian Garbutt. Having lost a ball at the first hole and taken a double-bogey six, he was six under par for the remaining 16 holes of his match against Massimo Scarpa but lost by 2 and 1.

Macgregor felt the turning point of the match came on Friday afternoon when Great Britain and Ireland, behind after the foursomes, were down in seven of the eight singles. They fought back, with some help from sloppy European play, to end the day level and won the foursomes on Saturday, 3-1.

In the singles, Macgregor's peace of mind was rarely ruffled, even though the Europeans produced the sort of figures that would win many matches. Gary Wolstenholme, Matthew Stanford, Raymond Burns, Dean Robinson and Jody Fanagan, making their debuts for Britain and Ireland,

countered with a birdie blitz of their own and all won.

Ignacio Garrido, the Brazilian Trophy winner, whose holing out was well-nigh flawless, and Rolf Muntz, the former British champion, beat Jim Milligan and Garth McGimpsey, but it was too late for the Europeans.

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Davis dismisses another seven

BY IVO TENNANT

RICHARD Davis had the unenviable task of succeeding Derek Underwood as Kent's left-arm spinner. He has had, it might be said, mixed fortunes in so doing. In years to come, Wisden will recall him as a more effective bowler in one-day cricket than in the first-class game.

Yet twice this month he has taken career-best figures, his seven for 64 yesterday against Durham exceeding his analysis in returning seven against Gloucestershire ten days ago. Whether this will be sufficient to win the match for Kent is quite another matter. Durham declared 63 behind

in the hope, no doubt, of being left something today, and had three Kent batsmen out by the close. For them, there was an ebullient innings of 90 from Larkins, 76 by Hutton, and an unbeaten 72 by Parker.

In the Sunday League, there is no separating Essex and Middlesex, who continue to lead the table jointly. What may well prove decisive is that Middlesex have two matches in hand. At Ilford, Gooch struck 79, his best score of the season in the 40-over game, putting on 130 in 23 overs for the first wicket with Prichard. In the course

of his innings he reached 7,000 runs in this competition.

What with that and an unbeaten 61 by Vaughan, Essex saw off Lancashire by seven wickets. There was altogether little for DeFreitas to relish in his first bowl since Pakistan's first innings in the second Test more than a week ago. He had a coriander injection in his troublesome groin strain and bowled his eight overs in two spells at a cost of 56 runs. He did at least take the wicket of the England captain: he could have come up with no better way of proving his fitness.

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MONDAY JUNE 29 1992

Bates thrives on burden of British expectancy

By Andrew Longmore
Tennis Correspondent

FOR once, in a long career spent carrying the banner for British tennis, Jeremy Bates can step on to the centre court at Wimbledon today free from the fear of failure. At the age of 30, he has more than fulfilled the expectations of the nation in becoming the first British player to reach the last 16 since Buster Mottram in 1982: defeat by the No. 9 seed, Guy Forget, would be a disappointment but not disgrace.

Not that Bates himself will view his greatest challenge in such cavalier manner. He spent an hour yesterday practising, shaking the lethargy from his body after his sapping five-set victory over Thierry Champion on Saturday. "I feel much better than I thought I would," he said, as he held court in the garden of his home a mile from the centre court.

Had he lost to Champion in the third round after leading by two sets and 3-0, his victories earlier in the week over the No. 7 seed, Michael Chang, and Javier Sánchez would have been overshadowed by just another gallant defeat. But Bates scraped through in the fifth set, proving that he is not as devoid of determination as his persis-

tent critics might think and justifying his decision earlier this year to concentrate fully on reviving his fading singles career.

"I decided that if I was going to play for three or four more years, I would need to be totally committed. I was my own worst enemy six or seven years ago. I used to get upset, but the difference is that I have a greater understanding of what I want from life. I just want to enjoy my tennis now," he said.

British success is such a rare event at Wimbledon that the traditional gentility of the centre court crowd is bound to be shed. Indeed, win or lose, by the end of the day Bates, who is playing his first singles match on centre court, will have some understanding of what Forget went through in the Davis Cup final in Lyons late last year. The result might well depend on whether Bates thrives on the attention, as Forget did, or withers beneath it.

"The crowd really gave me a lift against Champion. Every time I got up for a changeover, they cheered. Normally, I am in it for myself, but if I can do it for my country it would be great as well," Bates said yesterday. It will also depend on the ferocity of the French left-hander's serve.

DETAILS

HEAD-TO-HEADS: Bates v Forget played 3. Forget won 2, Bates 1. Nov 1988: Wimbledon (synthetic). First round: Bates won, 6-7, 6-3, 11-9. Sept 1990: Queen's (grass). Davis Cup: Forget won, 2-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-1. Feb 1992: Bayonne (indoor carpet). Davis Cup (dead rubber): Forget won, 6-2, 6-4.

TODAY'S WEATHER: Mostly dry, bright or sunny intervals. Wind south or southeast, light, sultry.

CENTRE COURT ORDER OF PLAY: Men's singles: G Forget (Fr) v M J Bates (GB). Women's singles: M Navratilova (US) v Y Sasuki (Indo). Men's singles: B Becker (Ger) v W Ferreira (SA).

Bates knows Forget's game well enough, as much through doubles as singles. He has already lost to the Frenchman in doubles here and has played him twice in the Davis Cup in the past 18 months in doubles and singles. His one victory came four years ago in the opening round of the Benson and Hedges tournament at Wimbledon, but he led by a set and 5-3 in the tie-break in the Davis Cup tie at Queen's two years ago.

"He has a big serve and the courts are getting quicker. We played against him in doubles and he served huge the whole match, but he's not a natural volleyer. I'll just give it everything I have."

Bates said. "I can't try any harder and I can't give it anything else and everybody knows that. Everybody is behind me."

Forget is aware of the task facing him. "I think maybe Bates is a better player now, so I'm going to have to be careful," he said. "The crowd will be behind him and it is never easy to play the home favourite in this country."

Bates, his faithful sweater washed and worn inside out, will open the programme at the start of the second week of the championships, preceding two centre-court regulars, Boris Becker and Martina Navratilova. The defending champions, Michael Stich and Steffi Graf, are relegated to court one for the day, along with Monica Seles, and the "standing room only signs" are sure to be out on court two long before the visits of John McEnroe, a potential quarter-final opponent for Bates, and Andre Agassi.

McEnroe will play Andrei Olhovskiy, who produced the shock of the first week in beating Jim Courier, the No. 1 seed, and Agassi meets another qualifier, Christian Saccani.

Simon Barnes, page 27
Complete results, pages 27 and 28



Basking in the glory: Bates holds court in the garden of his home, near the Wimbledon club, yesterday

Testing time for aspiring Olympians

Christie toppled as Regis surges to half-lap crown

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

JOHN Regis defeated Linford Christie for the first time this season when he won the Panasonic British Olympic 200 metres trial in Birmingham yesterday. Regis, the European champion, had to fight tooth and claw for a victory that reassured him he is on course for an Olympic athletics medal in Barcelona in August.

Regis came off the bend ahead, Christie got up to him as though he was going to pass, but the Belgrave Harrier resisted the challenge of the Thames Valley Harrier to win

in 20.27sec. Christie followed in 20.29. "I have been high for quite some time knowing at the trials that Linford was going to put me under pressure," Regis said. "But no body was going to come pass me today."

After winning an 800 metres silver medal at the world junior championships in 1988, Kevin McKay suffered three successive failures in attempts to secure places at senior international championships. There was no mistake yesterday as he timed his run to perfection to win the

1,500 metres easing down at the finish.

There can be no controversy over 1,500 metres selection this time, as there was for the world championships last year and the last Olympics. In 1988, four years ago, Sebastian Coe was not selected to try for a third successive Olympic title and, last year, Steve Cram was picked after finishing fourth in the trial while McKay, second, was left behind.

McKay's place is guaranteed as the trial winner and, in the absence of anyone behind him making a claim, Peter Elliott and Matthew Yates will get the other places, though they will be expected to prove their fitness after missing recent training. Elliott, aged 29, has said this will be his last Olympic 1,500 metres and McKay is ready to take up the baton. "I expect Matthew and I to dominate British 1,500 metres running until we bow out," he said.

There was no one to touch McKay yesterday. Tom Hanlon broke away early and led with 200 metres to go, at which point McKay sprang from the pack to pass Hanlon coming off the bend. He crossed the line in 3min 37.51sec, and the next 1,500 metres runner, Simon Fairbrother, was fourth. Hanlon, who will run the Olympic steeplechase, and Rob Denmark, who will run the 5,000 metres in Barcelona, were second and third.

Hanlon will be joined in the steeplechase by Colin Walker and Tom Buckner, the brother of Jack, who on Saturday won the 5,000 metres trial.

Tom Buckner has improved by 16 seconds this season, his 8min 26.29sec yesterday giving him second place behind Walker (8:25.15). But Keith Cullen, aged 20, has improved even more than Buckner, by 20 seconds this season, with 8:31.72 for third yesterday,



Eased out: Christie in the 200 metres yesterday

which suggests he is tomorrow's man.

One of the most difficult decisions that the selectors faced when they met last night was whether to pick Brendan Reilly or Geoff Parsons to accompany Dalton Grant and Steve Smith in the high jump. Smith won the trial with a British junior record of 2.31 metres and Grant, though behind Parsons, is a proven performer on the big occasion.

The selectors have to

choose between Parsons, who cleared 2.25 metres yesterday but has not achieved the Olympic qualifying mark of 2.28 this year, or Reilly, who cleared only 2.20 yesterday but has a season's best of 2.30. The choice is also between the experience of Parsons, who has been to two Olympic Games, or Reilly, aged 19, who would benefit from the experience.

For Smith, the Olympics are not the single most important competition of the season. "My priorities are to win the world junior championship and reach the Olympic final," he said. But, first things first: the English schools championships are coming up and he wants to win there too. He has grown half an inch to 6ft 1in this year. Would he want to grow more to help him over the bar? "I don't want to be 6ft 4in," he said.

Results, page 29
Photograph, page 29

O'Brien out of Games

New Orleans: Dan O'Brien, strongly favoured to win the decathlon at Barcelona, finished eleventh in the United States Olympics trials after scoring no points in the pole vault, the eighth event. He failed three times at the opening height he chose, 4.80 metres (15ft 9in). Dave Johnson won with

8,649 points, the second highest total this year. O'Brien, the world champion and heavily promoted in a "Dan vs Dave" television campaign, had a first-day lead on Johnson of 436 points.

Carl Lewis got through to the 200 metres final, though only seventh fastest of the eight semi-final qualifiers.

Follow one of the most exciting stages of the Tour de France with a close-up view from the support vehicles of one of the leading teams in cycling's greatest race... that is the prize in a special competition in *The Times* tomorrow

Gower's reformation passes the Gooch test

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

THIS time last year, David Gower was on the brink of retirement, having, in turn, driven those who run his country and county teams to exasperation. The question was not whether he would play Test cricket again but whether he would complete the season with Hampshire.

Everything has changed, not least the man himself. Gower, roused by need and circumstance as much as pride and passion, is this morning an England player once more, his career exhumed even as, with poignant irony, those of his two most enduring contemporaries and soulmates were laid to rest.

Almost lost amid the euphoria that greeted Gower's recall, for this week's third Test at Old Trafford, was the demise of Ian Botham and Allan Lamb. Both were dropped, the selectors pointedly declining to attribute Botham's omission to injury.

Ted Dexter, chairman of the panel, called him an "aging tiger" and he might equally have applied the phrase to Lamb. But if Botham's exit was inevitable, and is probably terminal, Lamb might be thought unlikely to go when he remains in rich form for his county and made an unbeaten century only three Tests ago. The news sent him to his bed, complaining of flu but, even at 38, do not write him off yet.

Effectively, Lamb has been sacrificed to prolong the investment in Graeme Hick. Hick's return of 284 runs from 15 Test innings will have some people fulminating over misplaced loyalty and it is a fact that Hick, even for his county, has lost that strutting confidence on which he thrived.

He has been demoted, the No. 3 spot going to a somewhat surprised Michael Ath-

erton, who had expected a longer and more demanding rehabilitation. Hick will now play as the nominal all-rounder, bating at six and purveying his off spin, which Worcestershire so neglect, in what will otherwise be a limited four-man attack.

DeFreitas is considered so important that he has been named despite the deterioration of his long-term groin injury. He has seen a specialist and had a cortisone injection but he must prove his fitness in a one-day game for Lancashire's second team today.

Malcolm's fitness is not in serious doubt but, if both are discounted, Pringle and Munton would then play, having apparently been retained on the interesting theory that bowlers of their height — 6ft 5in in each case — have been punished less than most at Old Trafford this year.

England's bowling is thin, alarmingly so, but the Gooch ethos has always been that you cannot win Test matches without putting a big score on the board. Hence, the emphasis is on strengthening the batting, bringing the beguiling prospect that, come Thursday, Manchester will belong to Gower.

Gooch's breakfast-time phone call to Gower was an ice-breaking exercise. As such, the captain carried it off

adroitly. "What are you doing up at this time of day?" he asked the man with whom he has shared six overseas tours yet claims, sadly, he knows no better than he did when they first played together 14 years ago.

What he does know is that they are very different people and it is to the general good that Gooch is now evidently prepared to accept and accommodate the fact, having ignored Gower for 11 Tests and publicly confessed that he felt more comfortable for his absence.

Perhaps both will acknowledge their own shortcomings in the affair. Gooch counts Gower as his greatest management failing and he should certainly have done more to head off the conflict which drove such a wedge into a long-standing friendship that they barely spoke for a year.

Gower, if he is honest, will admit there were times, on his fateful last tour of Australia, when his behaviour seemed deliberately perverse, and times since then when he has wallowed in self-pity.

Those days, thankfully, are gone. A settled home life and a forthcoming marriage have helped. So, paradoxically, has his abrupt dip in earnings and the sharp awareness that he has no guaranteed future outside the game. Suddenly, all things have not come so easy to him and, as he whimsically says, the mortgage and the bank manager can concentrate the mind wonderfully.

More than 700 runs this year, averaging 65, testifies to the stiffening of resolve and vindicates his return. While the nation celebrates, however, spare a thought for Mark Ramprakash, who finds himself usurped by both Gower and Atherton, despite scoring heavily and consistently.

ENGLAND TEAM

	Age	Tests
G A Gooch (Essex, capt)	38	66
A J Stewart (Surrey)	29	19
M A Atherton (Lancs)	29	18
R A Smith (Hants)	28	23
D I Gower (Hants)	35	114
G A Hick (Worce)	9	9
C C Lewis (Notts)	24	17
R A J DeFreitas (Leics)	30	3
P A J Russell (Glouce)	24	1
I D K Salisbury (Sussex)	22	1
D E Malcolm (Derby)	23	0
A Munton (Warwick)	23	0
D R Pringle (Essex)	23	0

Nicholas upsets Pakistanis

By Our Sports Staff

MARK Nicholas, the Hampshire captain, was at the centre of a controversy yesterday when he apparently refused to walk when given out for a bat-pad catch and was then reinstated during the match with the Pakistanis at Southampton.

Khalid Mahmood, the Pakistan tour manager, accused Nicholas of influencing the umpires and said: "Of course my players are unhappy — there is not an iota of doubt about the catch. Is this the sort of behaviour you are going to tolerate from your players? I have never seen anything like that in my life before."

Nicholas had scored 18 when the incident occurred during Hampshire's first innings of 162, pushed forward to leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed and saw substitute field-

er Rashid Latif claim a spectacular diving catch at short leg.

As the Pakistanis gathered celebrating around the catcher, Nicholas stood his ground and only began to walk off when umpire Ray Tolchard raised his finger.

But Nicholas continued to remonstrate with both umpires as he made his way reluctantly across the square, and, after a conversation involving all three men, the batsman turned back to resume his innings.

The Pakistanis were incredulous, with Mushtaq throwing the ball down in disgust. But, to their credit, the Pakistan team — when informed by the umpires of the reason for their change of decision — quickly got on with the game. Umpires Tolchard and Ken Palmer admitted later

that their original decision had been a mistake, due to a misunderstanding in signalling between them. Tolchard had looked across to Palmer and raised his finger because he thought his colleague had confirmed the dismissal. But Palmer was unsighted as to whether the ball had carried and Tolchard felt he had to give the batsman the benefit of the doubt.

Nicholas said: "I was going, but the umpires stopped me. I'm disappointed that I've been involved in any form of controversy. The Pakistan management and I are happy now that the game will be continued to be played in the right spirit."

Report, page 28

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Water-resistant to 200 m.
Swiss made since 1848.



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MONDAY JUNE 29 1992

EDUCATION p7

Should the
government
allocate
budgets?



Putting your brand on to the British

Imagine for a moment that you are Sherlock Holmes in the celebrated tale Conan Doyle did not get around to writing. The Case of the Branded Family.

What you have to decide, by studying the two following consumer profiles, is which family truly deserves the title of Mr and Mrs Average Briton.

The first family wake up to breakfast of Special K, spreading Stork margarine on their bread and sipping Red Mountain coffee. While the baby - wearing Ultra T Disposable nappies - tucks into Farley baby food, the other children play with Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles.

Having brushed their teeth with Crest, their usual snack is Monster Munch or Discos washed down with Sprite, and the favourite chocolate bar is a Bounty. The house is cleaned using Ajax and clothes are washed in Wisk. She dabs on Ysatis. His chosen fragrance is Rapport.

The dog gets Chappie and the cat has Kite-Kat, but the tinned choice of the humans is also fishy - Princes salmon. If the evening meal is hot, then it has to be Lotus Chinese Food.

At the end of the day, with the Vauxhall Nova parked safely out front, evening drinks are Tennent's Lager and Murell 3 star. And if all that leaves them feeling a little jaded, Solpadeine is the remedy.

On the other side of the street, the second family have filled their weekly shopping basket with similar, but significantly different, items.

They enjoy Kellogg's Corn Flakes, use Flora margarine and drink Nescafé. Baby, in Pampers Disposable Nappies, is fed Heinz baby foods. These children are fascinated with Nintendo, crunch on Walkers crisps and take a break with Kiti Kats.

In the cupboard are tins of Heinz baked beans, next to Dolmio pasta sauce, with Whiskas for the cat and Pedigree Chum for the dog. Dishes are scrubbed in Fairy Liquid and clothes are washed in Persil.

In the fridge are cans of Coca-Cola and Carlsberg Special Brew, though Belf's Extra Special Whisky favoured, too. In the garage stands a Vauxhall Cavalier.

In the bathroom is Colgate toothpaste, Anadin tablets. Anais Anais perfume for her and Jazz by Yves Saint Laurent for him.

Elementary? You would need to know only a few of Britain's biggest brand names to realise that the second family are the personification of the British consumer. Their shopping trolley is filled with the leading brands in every retail sector.

As for the first household, their purchases are placed tenth in the same lists compiled in *Marketing* magazine's latest annual survey of Britain's biggest brand names.

Fascinating though these lists are in themselves, they also demand that we ask deeper questions. What is a brand? Is it simply a well-

Do you prefer Princes tinned salmon to Heinz tinned beans - and would your cat really choose Whiskas? Roy Greenslade reports on the power of the brand leaders

known product? Why are so many of us seduced by brand names? Do brands place us at the mercy of manufacturers and retailers, or do we still manage to keep them thinking by exercising idiosyncratic choice?

Shopping around for a definition of a brand is not as straightforward as standing in front of a supermarket shelf. Barry Cox, who describes himself as new business development director at the advertising agency Publicis, put it this way: "A brand is the summation of everything you come to understand about a product, the physical, the emotional, the rational and also the irrational. You build up a picture from impressions gained through, say, packaging and advertising. From these complex set of communications grow a set of values. Those values represent the brand."

As Mr Cox remarked, this was not a bad top-of-the-head definition for the middle of a balmy afternoon when his mind was on Wimbledon. Brands are a relatively modern phenomenon which came about with mass production. Manufacturers needed to guarantee to us consumers that their product was always the "same". This serves two purposes - ensuring that a product is not confused with a rival's and offering assurance of consistent quality.

The brand, therefore, was a substitute for the personal relationship which once existed between the little local manufacturer and the customer.

'A brand has no absolute or objective existence... it is simply a collection of perceptions in the mind of the customer'

Needham, argues that brand names are essential in modern consumer society. Without them there would be anarchy in the market place because we could never be sure what we were buying and the manufacturer would never know what satisfied our needs.

Surely, though, manufacturers are robbing us of our free will, manipulating us into making regular purchases? Everyone I spoke to in the industry was at pains to deny this, though they would, wouldn't they? However, several quoted instances of consumer resistance. The classic example remains the decision by Coca-Cola to introduce "New Coke" to the world. Coke fans rebelled and the company was forced to go on making giant profits from its old brand.

Perhaps the best illustration of the power of brands is a blind tasting. People very often cannot tell one product from another, but that does not stop them buying the brand name. What they are buying is a guarantee, a fulfilled promise. How, then, do manufacturers and their advertisers win, or keep, adherents to their brands?

Here we enter that familiar world of advertising jargon: image, USP (unique selling proposition), positioning, targeting, improving share, losing margin and so on and so forth.

It is more helpful to look at some of the practical examples from the *Marketing* survey, carried out on its behalf by Nielsen, which charts the changes over the past year.

The first message is that the big brands tend to stay around. There is incredible stability because people go on for years buying the same brands.

That trend highlights just how spectacular an entrance into the top 50 grocery brands has been made by Muller Yoghurt, which was launched in 1988 and last year showed a 81 per cent growth in its market.

Muller's managing director, Ken Wood, says his firm set out to create a new brand, introducing an innovation - two-compartment pot to separate the yoghurt from the fruit - and giving the customer a fifth more in content. Backed by a relatively high £3 million in advertising last year, the gamble paid off. A new brand was born and now there are seven "pretenders" in the field, too.

It might be imagined that advertising is always the key expense, but Mr Wood thinks it only part of

the armoury. The experience in another sector, fragrances, seems to support his view. The top ten fragrance brands cut their spending by two thirds last year.

Even so, brand loyalty kept Anais Anais in the number one female fragrance spot. Why does this product remain so popular? "It's non-threatening, sentimental, romantic and feminine," says Di Canady of Publicis, which handles its advertising. She emphasises the importance of the packaging, a factor everyone stresses as being of crucial importance.

Further down the fragrance lists, there are signs of change. Estée Lauder's White Linen and L'Oréal's Vanderbilt went out to be replaced by Giorgio and Ysatis.

And in the men's chart, Brut has finally fallen out of favour though Old Spice, outperforming all its rivals on advertising, managed to reach number five.

Sales of the top fragrances reach about £20 million a year, but the sweeter smell of sales success is pet food, on which we spend more than £1 billion.

The battle of the feline brands is between Whiskas, Felix and Arthur's, previously known as Kantomear. This is a case of the real consumer being prey to the wishes of an owner.

More interesting than tins for pets are tins for humans. The canned food chart, as *Marketing* points out, reads like a shopping list of the 1950s.

Heinz baked beans and Heinz soups head a list of tinned meat and fish, and Del Monte canned fruit. There are class factors at work here: it seems that the man from Del Monte may say yes, but he does not say "okay, yah".

Canned foods remain a working class staple and, explains Clare Sambrook of *Marketing*, at the poorer end of the market people cannot afford to make a "mistake" by trying new lines.

Once again, that relationship between consumer and manufacturer is at work. Perhaps there is some truth in the observation by one of modern society's greatest critics, Ivan Illich, who said that consumerism inevitably produces two kinds of slaves: the prisoners of addiction and the prisoners of envy.

Understanding Brands: ed. Ian Cowley (Kogan Page, 1991)



THE TOP SIX BRANDS 1991

- 1 Coca-Cola
- 2 Persil
- 3 Ariel
- 4 Nescafé
- 5 Whiskas cat food
- 6 Walkers Crisps

TOP SIX CANNED FOODS 1991

- 1 Heinz baked beans
- 2 Heinz RTS soups
- 3 John West salmon
- 4 Princes corned beef
- 5 Del Monte canned fruit
- 6 Ambrosia rice pudding

Coverage: grocers

TOP SIX FRAGRANCES OF 1991

- 1 Anais Anais
- 2 Opium
- 3 Lolou
- 4 Chanel No 5
- 5 Paris
- 6 Giorgio

TOP SIX PET FOODS 1991

- 1 Whiskas cat food
- 2 Pedigree chum dog food
- 3 Arthur's cat food
- 4 Felix
- 5 Prime
- 6 Pili

Coverage: grocers. Source: Nielsen

Tomorrow: Radio 3's Nicholas Kenyon

A brief history of time for the Eurocrat

There was something in the reporting of Gillian Shepherd's hard-way EC Do you get a minimum 11 hours rest ("Hah! Rest cry the working mothers, in chorus) between shifts, and 35 hours uninterrupted sleep ends? Do you want them? See, everyone has an opinion, and nobody much agrees. A perfect Eurosubject.

For a start, think about 48 hours, the minimum which Britain was afraid of being bound to. It represents 9 to 5, six days a week. Or perhaps 8 to 6 every weekday, with a four o'clock finish on Fridays. It gets nowhere near City workaholic's 7.30 to 9pm, nor to the life of a publican with the new extended hours or a mother's help expected to be available for babysitting at night and who often runs through 48 hours by Wednesday lunchtime. On the other hand, since we have now agreed to maximum eight-hour night shifts, anyone aiming at a 48-hour week would have to do six nights on the trot, plus travel. Not much of a life, really. Whereas the City chap above, and perhaps even the publican, might say their lives were fine.

Which is, in the end, why working hours are always going to be impervious to regulation. If contracts were only clear, and jobs

But the whole subject was wonderful saloon-bar stuff. Well, how many hours a week do you work? Do you get a minimum 11 hours rest ("Hah! Rest cry the working mothers, in chorus) between shifts, and 35 hours uninterrupted sleep ends? Do you want them? See, everyone has an opinion, and nobody much agrees. A perfect Eurosubject.

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Which is, in the end, why working hours are always going to be impervious to regulation. If contracts were only clear, and jobs

WORKING LIFE

Libby Purves argues

that a week is always as long as you make it



plentiful enough to permit escape, we would probably all throw in the Eurosponge and reject any regulation at all. Because lives evolve and priorities shift, and what is outrageously inhumane for a struggling parent might be just perfect for a keen 22-year-old still enjoying that early love affair with learning a trade. Or for a singleminded careerist with few friends. Or, indeed, for a tigerish post-meno-

pausal woman hurling herself back into the workplace with terrifying Thatcherese zest.

I am happy to report that the EC recommendations make most of my past life retrospectively illegal. At school, if you count hockey practice as work (and I most certainly did) I worked a clear 56-hour week. On local radio I worked seven days a week because the weekend was the only time they would let me stand around in damp fields with a microphone saying "Well, here I am at the site of today's re-enactment of the battle of Marston Moor, and here is Sid Anorak with his genuine leatheren ale-sung, to tell us all about it. Sid, what's that exactly that you've got on your head?" Well, no, I wouldn't do it now if I could help it: but at that age I didn't want my statutory 35-hour weekly rest period because all I would have done was mooch around waiting for Monday. When they did clamp down on the hours I ended up so desperate I joined a badminton club, over which we shall draw a veil. As Miss Austen says, let other pens dwell on guilt and misery: nor would I poach upon Mr Diamond and Ms Truss. Work alone kept me out of mischief in the single life.

But the most bizarre shifts of all occurred in an experimental period

in the early 1970s when producers on the Radio 4 *Today* programme worked - wait for it - a week consisting of two 22-hour shifts. You started on, say, Monday at noon, and worked clear through to 10.00 the next morning. Then you went to bed for a day or so, and came back on Thursday at noon to do the same trick. Officially you could go and lie down on a BBC bed for a while in the small hours, but if America or the Far East was busy, you didn't. And anyway, sometimes on the way to your bed-hour you fell into bad company and played a hand of poker with the commissionaires.

This had the advantage that there were no unwieldy handover sessions from day to a night shift, with consequent losing of tapes and passing of bucks. It also quite suited both rootless trainees like me, and foxxy old staggers who were combining the job with running a farm or a secret PR agency or several wivelets. It had the disadvantage that after a bit, everyone went rather odd.

They had to give it up in the end. But I am not sorry to have done it. What is life about, if not trying all sorts of weird ways in which to lead it? I think Louella and I will have to go into Europe and sort their ideas out a bit.

THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL NOVEL OF THE YEAR

English Music



by **Peter Ackroyd**

"a brilliant book... a virtuoso performance"

Victoria Glendinning
The Times

"a powerful literary imagination working at full stretch"

Patrick McGrath
The Daily Telegraph



BERLIN BALLET: The Berlin Ballet, under the direction of Peter Koller, is presenting a series of performances at the Berlin State Opera. The first performance is on July 1st, followed by a second on July 3rd, and a third on July 5th. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

PLATFORM 2: The first of three music events on tonight's 8.30pm slot. It's a celebration of the music of the 1960s, with a special focus on the music of the 1960s. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones.

ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD: The Opera House's production of the 1960s musical, Orpheus in the Underworld, is back on stage. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones.

THE ALCHIMIST: David Bradley and Jonathan Hyde bring the story of the Alchemist to the stage. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC: The Sound of Music is back on stage. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones. The performances are of the same quality as the previous ones, and the dancers are of a high standard. The music is by the same composer as the previous ones, and the sets are of the same quality as the previous ones.

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Speed up your Mahler, maestro

Gilbert Kaplan, financial expert turned conductor, believes that a famous Adagietto has been misread. Richard Morrison reports

There are, of course, at least four Gilbert E. Kaplans. First comes the financial wizard: multi-millionaire founder, chairman and editor-in-chief of the magazine *Institutional Investor*. Then there is Kaplan the conductor, who has suddenly widened his repertoire. For ten years he pursued a grand obsession, conducting only Mahler's Second Symphony. He even recorded it, selling 125,000 discs. Today, however, he presents a new Mahler interpretation to the world. This time it is not a whole symphony, just the celebrated Adagietto from the Fifth.

Kaplan the musicologist is the person who forced Kaplan the conductor to break his beautiful monogamy. He formed a curious conviction that every other conductor in the world had got the Adagietto wrong. They were performing it much too slowly.

Kaplan the art-collector and Margritte expert came into play at this point. The cover of his new recording of the Adagietto is sensuously graced with the enormous rose of Margritte's *Le tombeau des luthiers*.

Which brings us back to Kaplan the financial wizard, a man rich enough to ensure that a pet project is carried out with lavish attention to quality and detail. For today his Kaplan Foundation is publishing a limited edition, 1,500 copies only, of *Adagietto* — a sumptuously printed facsimile of Mahler's autograph score and Alma Mahler's copy of it. It is accompanied by a compact disc of Kaplan's performance with the London Symphony Orchestra, and by a 112-page study that documents just about every known fact about the Adagietto, from its genesis to a discography (around 70 recordings to date) and even a list of the 20 ballet sets to its music.

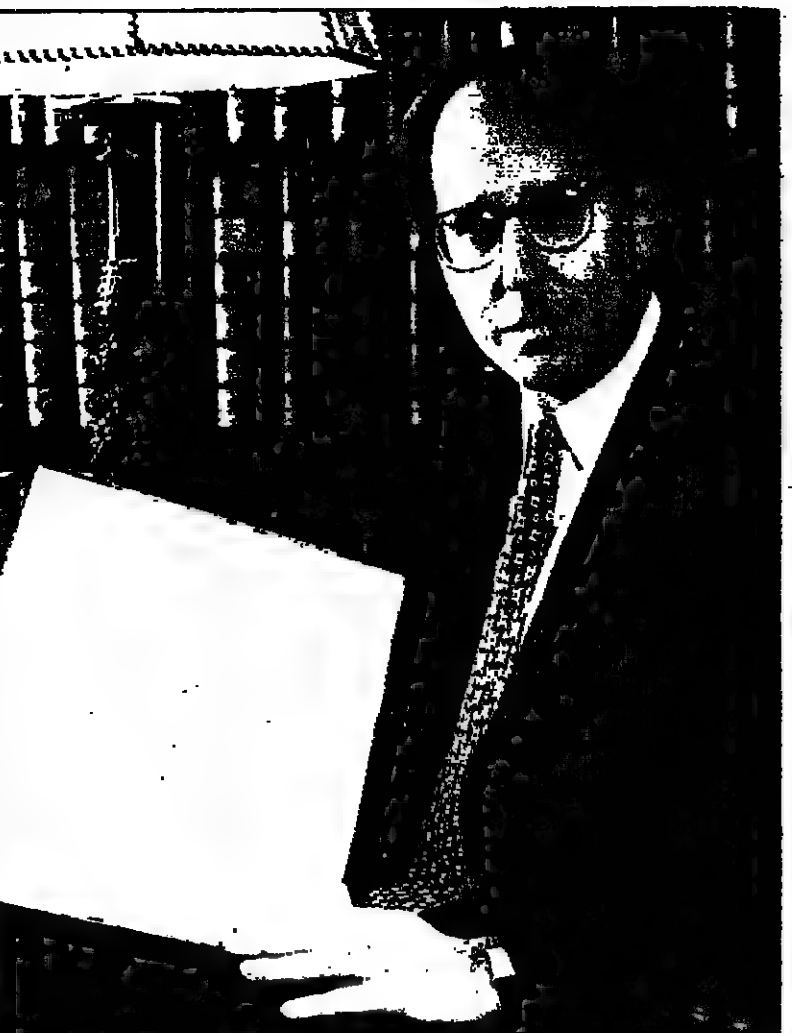
If lavish presentation and painstaking research could prove a point, Kaplan would be home and dry. But does his argument stand up? After all, he is not questioning a few errant novices; he is accusing nearly every distinguished maestro since the war of following a "false tradition".

Kaplan maintains that Mahler and his earliest disciples, Bruno Walter and Wilhelm Mengelberg, used to canter through the Adagietto in around eight minutes. On his own recording, Kaplan manages an Olympian 7'57". By contrast, the modern maestro dawdles indulgently.

Recordings by Tennstedt, Abbado, Maazel and Karajan take around 12 minutes. Haitink's version lasts an eternal 14. And in an emotion-charged live performance Bernstein had the capacity to elongate the movement well past a quarter of an hour. In other words, maintains Kaplan, some of them are taking the music at virtually half its "proper" speed. These are serious charges.

The question is, will anybody take them seriously? What Mahler meant by the instruction "sehr langsam" (very slow) is really the nub of the matter. "I came across the discovery by Mengelberg that Mahler had used the Adagietto as a love letter to Alma," maintains Kaplan. To Kaplan, this implies that the music should flow with passion and spirit, not drift into stagnant etherality.

Kaplan identifies several reasons for the false feyness. Luciano Visconti's film of *Death in Venice* linked the Adagietto with a feeling of supine decay and death — in fact, Mahler's own death. Since Visconti modelled his Aschenbach figure on the composer, Bernstein also contributed to the funeral associations, by conducting



Man of parts: Kaplan with Mahler's autograph score of the Adagietto

the Adagietto at the requiem of Robert Kennedy. Other conductors may have felt that the Adagietto was simply too short to balance its mighty companion movements, if played at the pace Mahler seems to have intended.

For Kaplan, the matter is an ethical issue. He wants other conductors to cease their wilful distortions of Mahler's intentions, and has deliberately chosen a hugely expensive and high-profile way of making his point. "I guessed that, by bringing out the facsimile, the recording and the monograph all together, I would make a bigger impact than by writing an article in some scholarly journal," he

says, with delicate understatement. Other conductors can respond — if they respond at all to Kaplan's challenge — by pointing out that Mahler himself, when conducting other composers' music (especially Beethoven and Schumann), tampered extensively if he felt it did not sound right. Kaplan's own recording certainly has an urgent air about it: whether that captures the essence of a love letter is ultimately a matter of taste. Either way, this remarkable amateur has once more given music's haughty professionals something to chew over.

Adagietto is distributed in Britain by Faber Music, priced £65

THEATRE

Not even a ghost of hope in the ghetto

The Dybbuk
New End, Hampstead



Play within a play: Philippe Smolkowski and Kate Margam

NEXT month the RSC is staging what will presumably be a faithful translation of Solomon Anski's tale of the Hassidic scholar whose soul sets up a squat in the girl he was denied when he was alive. But by some bizarre coincidence, or inscrutable act of the theatrical gods, two other versions of *The Dybbuk* have already been seen in London this year, neither of them straightforward. January gave us Bruce Myers's adaptation, a two-handed in which a Jewish husband and wife performed a glum ritual supper by brightening Anski for each other. Now June brings a still more intricate piece from the writer and director Julia Pascal: a play within a play within a ruminative monologue.

On comes a troubled-looking Kate Margam as Judith, a modern English Jew not unlike Pascal herself. She talks of journeying through a Germany

almost empty of living kith ("Hider won't" but full of kin cut off in their prime, ghosts or "dybbuks" asking her to give voice to their pain. This she proceeds to do by transforming herself and four other actors into ghetto dwellers, subsisting on what seem to be slices of rat in the catamounts of some unnamed city, probably Warsaw or Vilnius in 1942.

All are desperate and most as confused about their identity as Judith herself: "I'm only half-Jewish, my mother was pure Aryan." What follows is presumably meant to remind them, and us, that they have tales, traditions, beliefs in common. At any rate, they launch into Pascal's rough-theatre version of the most famous and resonant of all Yiddish plays: which is, of course, Anski's *Dybbuk*.

This transition comes a bit late. Pascal's production would have more dramatic impact if it established the miseries of the ghettos more succinctly and the point and purpose of *The Dybbuk* itself more fully. As it is, the ladders conveniently furnishing the

cellar are pressed into service as the wings of the Angel of Death, the sides of the scholar's coffin, the bridal canopy prepared for the girl her father has given to another man. Another member of Pascal's mostly excellent cast, Thomas Kampe, then twists his naked torso into a writhing dybbuk, and in the process of being exorcised when the Nazis arrive.

There is no upbeat ending, as there is in Anski. The posthumous reconciliation between the scholar and his love is missing. Instead, the offstage sounds and crackle of gunfire intensify, and, in the evening's most striking image, the actors walk again and again into the bullets, their faces variously scared, glazed, puzzled, dignified and defiant. Anski might have objected, since his play was meant to suggest that, however low we plunge, there is always hope of spiritual rebirth: "Within the fall the power lies to rise again." But then Anski wrote the play in 1917, before Hitler and the Holocaust.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

THEATRE

Familiar strains of war

Darkness in Hearts
The New Grove

OPPOSITE St Pancras, above a large informal wine bar in Euston Road. The New Grove has been launched. Just under 60 seats, a decent acting space with none of the claustrophobia that is an occupational hazard in fringe theatres, it opens with an all too topical cry of grief for the contorted agonies of what was Yugoslavia.

The author, Sladjana Vujovic, is a London-based Yugoslav actress and writer. Her one-act play focuses on the relationship between a Croatian girl and her Serb boyfriend. This is less a variation on the Montagues and Capulets, however, than a didactic piece, attempting to explain and illustrate deep-rooted hatreds.

The writing is earnest, sincere and impassioned. What it lacks is the ability to characterise the onstage families as individuals: they remain mouthpieces of attitudes in the style of a dramatised schools' broadcast, the over-explanatory peppered with emotional clichés. The final litany of anecdotes, with the cast (three men, three women) now seen as soldiers immobile in a statu-

esque group, is powerful. The stories of atrocities emphasise the self-destructive nature of the war: shock, guilt, psychosomatic dumbness, suicide. The stylised presentation of fact is more telling than the fictional love affair and its attendant tensions.

Gary Drabwell's production is happiest in non-realistic set-pieces accompanied, with astonishing success, by

snatches of popular classics. The cast's patriotic sloganeering to the Soldiers' Chorus from *Faust*, the sensationalist headlines from the partisan press gradually jumbled into frenzied shouts to *Per Gynt*, and the eruption of violence to the strains of Prokofiev, from swagging jeers to fistfuls in firearms and a stage full of corpses — these passages are almost choreographically timed and paced. More than soap opera characters in domestic drama, they succeed in depicting the bewildering cruelty and futility of the war — and the apparent absence of any solution.

MARTIN HOYLE

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LEFFREY GALLERY
100 Regent St, London W1A 2AB
Tel: 01-493 2100
18 June-10 July, 10.00-6.00

CINEMAS

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St, London W1A 2AB
Tel: 01-493 2100
18 June-10 July, 10.00-6.00

GLYNDEBOROUGH FESTIVAL

With the London Philharmonic
18 June-10 July, 10.00-6.00

THEATRES

ADAPTED 18 June-10 July, 10.00-6.00
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COMEDY RU

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OPERA & BALLET

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Radiant in a topsy-turvy world

Dame Wendy Hiller, Shaw's favourite actress, is still in magnificent form as she turns 80. Interview by Michael Arditti

In Allan Cubitt's *Countess Alice*, the screenplay being transmitted on BBC 2 on Wednesday, the eponymous Countess remarks that "I don't think I care very much for journalists". So convincing is Dame Wendy Hiller's performance in the role that I approached her with some trepidation. I need not have feared; she greeted me warmly in the Beaconsfield home she has shared for 51 years with her husband of five years longer, the playwright Ronald Gow. "As you can tell," she says, "I do not care for change."

In fact, Dame Wendy — who will be 80 in August — has seen much change in the course of a 60-year career that has taken her from overnight stardom as Sally Hardcastle in Walter Greenwood's *Love on the Dole*, through a Hollywood Oscar for Rattigan's *Separate Tables*, to countless leading roles in the West End and on Broadway. With her nonagenarian husband alertly confirming details — "I call myself Wendy's remembrance" — she recalled its genesis.

There was no theatrical tradition in her middle-class Lancashire family, although, as children, she and her three brothers played charades. "My brother Peter and I used to push my dolls in a pram around the garden and then do a terrible act of weeping over our dead babies. I don't know whether it was cathartic; it sounds unhealthy now."

Her parents supported her acting ambitions, although when *Love on the Dole* transferred to London her father would not hear of her living alone. "My poor mother had to come with me, as she did when I went to America. There I was, 22 years old, starting on Broadway and still chaperoned. New York reeled under the news. And when I married Ronald the following year, I did so from my father's house — but then, in a very real sense, I'd never left it."

Ronald Gow had adapted Greenwood's novel. Initially, he had thought her too inexperienced to play Sally, but "there was no one else young enough who could do the part". Her success meant that the one-week run was extended to an unprecedented three. "Then we

were bought by the man who used to put on plays on Blackpool Pier. He took us on a seven-month tour of Lancashire and Yorkshire — towns which have since disappeared. We played, twice-nightly, to dogs and shawls: it was dogs and shawls then."

Despite wooing Broadway, she resisted the lure of Hollywood. "I was a beastly little snob and thought they were beneath me." A more congenial offer came from Sir Barry Jackson to play St Joan at the Malvern Festival to celebrate Shaw's 80th birthday. It was the start of a historic association which culminated in her screen portrayals of Elizabeth Doolittle and Major Barbara. Not that their introduction was auspicious: "What's the matter with your hair?" GBS asked at rehearsal. "It's positively immoral." I'd plastered it down with bay rum and under the lights it had waved.

She became devoted to him. "GBS wasn't like an old man. He was very upright, very elegant, beautifully groomed, very fresh-looking. He had sparkling blue eyes with a wicked look in them. He flirted with me disgracefully. I fell deeply in love with him. Looking back, if only I'd been a little less diffident... He really did hold out the hand of friendship. He insisted I played Eliza; I didn't know."

Shaw's faith in her is amply confirmed. Her Eliza on screen has the same inner strength as her Countess Alice half a century later — a rosy-cheeked radiance evident even in black and white. "At that age, you take things so much for granted. It was just as though every girl had an offer from GBS. Thinking back, I don't know how I had the courage." She sighs, "That's one of the unkindest things nature does; it takes away your courage."

After the Shaw films, her screen career included *Outcast of the Islands*, *Sons and Lovers*, *A Man For All Seasons* and the Powell-Pressburger *I Know Where I'm Going*. "I admired Mr Pressburger and got on well with him; but Mr Powell and I had our differences. He was a dreadful bully." And she did finally make it to Hollywood "in rather a bad film about the Mau Mau, with that lovely creature [Rock Hudson] who died of Aids".



Dame Wendy Hiller, who is 80 in August: "I wish I could have done more Shakespeare. But there have been compensations."

As with all great actors, her true home is the stage. However, apart from an indomitable Gunhild in the National's *John Gabriel Borkman*, her career has bypassed the subsidised theatre, something she regrets. "Working in the great companies does give actors a cachet, lacking in someone like me."

An even larger cause for regret has been the absence of Shakespeare. She may have triumphed in Ibsen, Shaw, Hardy and Henry James, but except for a wartime Viola and a season with Richard Burton at the Old Vic, she missed out on the Bard.

Instead, for two years in the early Fifties, she starred opposite Edith Evans and Sybil Thorndike in N.C. Hunter's *Waters of the Moon*, giving her the chance to observe those two legendary ladies at first hand. "Dame Edith lived so much

more for the theatre than she did for people; she gave her all in her art. Sybil was quite the opposite. She could never say no to anyone. She once told me 'I'm so glad when the curtain goes up; being on stage is my breathing time.'"

Dame Edith held up rehearsals with endless discussions, which were a complete waste of time, because she had no intention of listening to the director. Once when Sybil and I went out for sausages and mash, she said to me 'Dear Edith finds rehearsal such a trying time and so she demands all this attention. I think Lewis [Casson, her husband] and I could be counted her oldest friends. Once you accept the fact that Edith isn't interested in anything unless it appertains to Edith, you can become very fond of her.'"

The bond between Dame Wendy and Dame Sybil was not only that between two of Shaw's favourite actresses, but two women whose sympathies extended far beyond the stage. Another great actress for

whom she felt affection was the centenarian Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies, at whose memorial service she had read the day before we met. "Dear Gwen: I do miss her so. You know, she was only old the last few weeks. She said to me 'My darling, I'm full of grumbles and full of aches. Oh, my darling, I'm beginning to feel my age.'"

The question of age is one she has to face herself as she approaches her 80th birthday. Lately she has been dogged by ill-health. "I've had trouble with my leg, and five separate operations... I don't feel old; though I suppose I must be. The other day, a charming old gentleman in Waitrose offered to push my trolley. I thought 'I should be pushing yours.' Then I realised 'I'm just a little white-haired lady.'"

Like Countess Alice who asserts "The past is dead and buried... it cannot be revisited," she tries not to live in the past, even though it often

seems preferable. "The world has turned topsy-turvy in my lifetime. I deplore it; why do people say change is progress? Ronald's answer was always: 'At least there's no longer child prostitution in the Haymarket'; now I'm not so sure. And I abhor the laxity of language. The other night I went to a play, which shall be nameless, and I thought, did John [Gielgud] live in vain?"

The range of her work has ensured that there is a far fuller record of her performances than those of her more classical colleagues. "I'm very fortunate that when I go to America, young people know me because of my films being frequently shown. It's such a gift. Of course I wish I could have done more Shakespeare, but there have been compensations. I've been so blessed in my life" — she points to her husband — "and the greatest blessing is over there."

Countess Alice is broadcast on BBC 2 on Wednesday at 9pm

ARTS BRIEF

Northern lights

IAN RITCHIE'S appointment as the new general director of Opera North may herald high excitement up in Leeds. The 39-year-old administrator has made his name managing the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, its promoting strength the music of living composers — and his innovative policy won the SCO the £100,000 Prudential Award for the Arts.

At Opera North he will be in harness with Paul Daniel, the 34-year-old conductor appointed music director last year, and another champion of the new. Ritchie succeeds Nicholas Payne in September 1993, when Payne becomes director of the Royal Opera.

Current affair

LESS than a month after the assassination of Giovanni Falcone, the Sicilian magistrate who was investigating the Mafia, four Italian film biographies have already been announced. The directors of three of the rival projects are Florestano Vancini, Alberto Negrin and Giuseppe Ferrara, whose producer was the first to claim the title *Giovanni Falcone*. Francesco Rosi, with his long and distinguished record of such non-documentary pictures, was asked to direct a fourth project but refused, saying the events were too recent. Franco Zeffirelli, meanwhile, has adopted the moral high ground, condemning the lot as "cannibals".

Gala on the box

GLYNDEBOURNE'S fundraising gala on July 24 will be enjoyed by a rather larger audience than the one paying either £1,000 or £750 a ticket in the opera house itself. The BBC is to televise the event — Monserat Caballé, fireworks and all — on the same evening. Demolition of the old opera house begins the following day, to make way for a bigger one.



Montserrat Caballé: Glyndebourne broadcast

Last chance...

A WINNING and funny evocation of what Soul music meant to white teenagers in the Sixties, *In The Midnight Hour* is almost non-stop music. It is performed by a multi-talented company of actors-musicians who also put over a thin but briskly handled storyline (Philip Ryan) with surprising conviction. Audience participation encouraged. Directed by Karen Stephens and Chris White, the musical finishes its run at the Young Vic on Saturday (071-928 0363).

LONDON GALLERIES

More than just a good friend

John Russell Taylor welcomes the chance to reassess an artist better known for her friendships than for her own paintings

There is always the danger with Marvina that she may be remembered less for what she was than for whom she knew. From birth in Kazan to death in Ealing, she led a highly coloured life, in constant contact with the great, of which she gave her own picturesque account in two volumes of autobiography. Even if people remembered that she was a painter of talent in her own right, the recollection was frequently ousted by glorified gossip about how she received her name (daughter of the seal from Maxim Gorky) and how she had a lengthy affair with Diego Rivera, father of her daughter Marika.

The centenary of her birth would seem like a good time to concentrate attention on Marvina herself. This, to a certain extent, the memorial show at Wildenstein does. But its title, *Marvina and Montparnasse*, indicates that it is still as much about her circle as about her own work as an artist. It is a considerable tribute to her quality that she is not totally overwhelmed by the company she keeps. For Marvina, in her Paris years (1912-1942), was surrounded by some very dominant figures. As a Russian émigrée she gravitated naturally to Russian émigré circles in Paris, where she met Soutine, Lipchitz, Zadkine, Kikoïne

and Kisling. This group moved in the same circles as Picasso, Modigliani, Matisse, Gris and indeed a virtual Who's Who of the *École de Paris* at the time. Many of these figures in the current show, which includes portraits of Marvina by Picasso and Fajita as well as pictures by Marvina of many of them.

In Paris Marvina had an affair with Zadkine before being introduced to Rivera. At this time she was involved with Cubism, and her Cubist works, such as *Deux Personnes* and *Georgiens*, speak the dialect of the tribe with an individual inflection. During her time with Rivera she adopted, rather bizarrely for the period, a form of Pointillism. Rivera greatly disapproved, but she stuck to her guns, and her unique fusion of Cubism's segmentation of form with Pointillism's division of colour continued to serve her for the rest of her long working life. It comes as a surprise, for instance, that the vivid and dynamic *Danse Hassidique* pendant *les Fêtes de Hanoka* was painted as late as 1970, when she was nearly 80.

Marvina's stylistic development was very consistent, right up to the last landscapes of Ealing back gardens (none of which appears in this show, unfortunately), but she reserved the right to go off in other directions



Later than it looks: Marvina's portrait of Kisling, 1968

if she felt like it: one such divagation is responsible for one of the most striking pictures on show, the extraordinary large *Marika nue allongée* which must date from the Forties and looks very like the work of Suzanne Valadon, Utrillo's mother. The 44 works by Marvina included here, nearly all borrowed from the Musée du Petit Palais, Geneva, give a fair picture of her career. Throughout the exhibition, her paintings are interspersed with works by members of her circle, among them some very remarkable works by lesser known members of the group,

such as a couple of splendid Cubist pieces by Maria Blanchard, the friend of Juan Gris, or the brilliant Fauve self portrait by Jeanne Hébuterne, the mistress of Modigliani. It is noticeable that Marvina, Blanchard and Hébuterne tend to be placed by their relationships with important males. It is also noticeable that, as they continue to stand on their own merits, such pigeon-holing seems less and less necessary.

Marvina and Montparnasse: Wildenstein, 147, New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 0602) Monday to Friday 10am to 5.30pm, until Sept 16.

TELEVISION REVIEW

Discoloured by waffle

When the subject is race and its coverage by the media, documentary makers can be relied on to round up the usual suspects. Alf Garnett is sure to show his face at some point, and you can expect to see the grainy news footage of Enoch Powell ranting away in that scholarly way of his. Add a left-wing sociologist or two, and a shot of Eighties riots, and you are already halfway home.

The old demons were set loose once more on Saturday in *Black and White in Colour*, a documentary which launched BBC 2's week-long season devoted to the portrayal of race on the screen. Isaac Julien's two-part survey, which will be concluded tomorrow night, made a diligent sweep through the archives, beginning with the cheerful caricatures who sang and danced their way onto the wedding cake sets at Alexandra Palace in the 1930s.

The old footage was fascinating enough, without the help of talking heads. The image of Cy Grant strumming his guitar on *Tonight* is familiar enough, but how many people remember the episode of *Emergency Ward 10* which caused outrage simply because it contained a scene of a white man kissing a black woman?

There was an intriguing glimpse, too, of *Fable*, a BBC play from 1965 based on the notion of role-reversal, with whites as the despised minority and blacks as the paternalistic majority handing out advice and the odd pound note. The idea seems innocuous now, but at the time the piece was considered so dangerous that its transmission date was postponed because of

fears of a racist backlash in an East End by-election.

Julien's thesis is that television has failed to reflect the reality of black and Asian life in this country. Taken together, the clips made compelling evidence for the prosecution: even well-meaning dramatists and film makers have tended to reduce black characters to stereotypes. Black actors and production staff have been woefully under-employed.

Where the programme went astray was in its script. Since it was a British Film Institute production, the film was stuffed full of BFI-speak: all the usual waffle about "discolour", "interventions" and "the social construction of race". Julien and his producer Colin McCabe (the man responsible for that risible slice

of feature film agit-prop *Young Soul Rebels*) were so eager to condemn the television mandarins that they missed the nuances. Whatever their faults, the broadcasters at least tried to filter out the worst manifestations of British prejudice.

In any case the film was, by and large, preaching to the converted. By now every BBC 2 viewer must be aware that racism is a Bad Thing. The real work is being done by the likes of Lenny Henry, a thoughtful entertainer who reaches a mass audience. His comedy show was far more subversive (to use a favourite BFIism) than anything Colin McCabe will ever make for the art-house circuit.

CLIVE DAVIS

RETURN TO THE

FORBIDDEN PLANET

By Bob Carlino

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Stepping out for the birds

Simon Barnes

reports on the campaign against the bureaucratic lunacy threatening sensitive wildlife habitats in Spain

The European Community is not Orwellian or even Kafkaesque. It is pure Jonathan Swift. Let us start with a small nonsense and a small bird: we shall move on to a colossal nonsense and an absolutely gigantic bird.

In central Spain, there are areas of poor soil and little rain, collectively known as the Spanish Steppes. They have been shaped by traditional agriculture: methods refined over the years for sustained use of a profoundly unpromising place.

The area around the small town of Belchite is particularly tough. It supports little more than light grazing of sheep. The area is so parched the bare soil is covered in lichen and looks more like rock than good earth. It is home to a weird little bird called Dupont's lark, a sneaky character that creeps about in the scrub.

The EC came up with a scheme to help agriculture in the area. It would pay farmers to plough up the scrub and plant wheat. It would pay them 20,000 pesetas per hectare to do so. So far so good, but there are some points this scheme failed to take into consideration:

● The EC already has a surplus of wheat.

● You cannot grow commercially viable wheat in Belchite.

● A natural habitat was being destroyed by the EC in direct contravention of its own laws. The EC is bound by its own Wild Bird Directive, under which certain birds are protected. It is not only the birds themselves that are protected by law: it is also the places where they live.

The local farmers are not foolish enough to turn down free money. Naturally, they have ploughed up a good deal of land around Belchite. However, they have not wasted any time harvesting: there is nothing out there worth harvesting. In short, local farmers have been paid to mess about: paid to destroy.

Other steppes are suitable for cereal growing and these too have their characteristic birds. Now these areas are under a massive programme of intensification. The word here is irrigation: making the dry areas wet, lush and productive.

Again there are objections to this scheme:

● Large-scale irrigation is not sustainable as a long-term policy — the schemes will run out of water.

● Once more a habitat for birds is being destroyed, again in contravention of EC rules.

● The Spanish farmers themselves are opposed to the schemes.

The matter is about to become an international cause célèbre. Conservation organisations are girding their loins to take on Brussels, for this is now a test case. This week the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) and the Sociedad Española de Ornitología (SEO) launch the Spanish Steppes Cam-



In the front line: Spain's magnificent flocks of great bustards will be driven out unless conservationists and farmers can resist EC plans

aign, backed by most of the bird conservation bodies of Europe, including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

Such campaigns need a striking and spectacular bird to act as a rallying point. There is no question about the flagship species of this campaign: it is as outrageous and as unforgettable as its name: the great bustard.

Great bustards were once British birds, but they went extinct in the 19th century. Shooting and, ominously, changes in farming practices did for them here.

They are monsters, the size of turkeys, and they gather in flocks of up to 100. Their flight is strong and straight, with that incongruous grace that characterises oversized things such as carhorses and elephants. There are some great bustards in Turkey and in eastern Europe but Spain, with an estimated 10,000 birds, has 65 per cent of the world population.

The other important birds of the steppes are little bustards and black-bellied and pin-tailed sand-grouse. Not just to bird-watchers, but to anybody with eyes and ears, the steppes are special places.

The steppes are a man-made environment. For generations farmers have alternated cereal-growing, grazing and fallow. The bustards and

the sand-grouse have been ignored, and they have co-existed quite happily with the farmers. Now everything is changing: bustard populations are threatened by irrigation because they are dry-country birds, eating grain and insects which would not exist in a wet habitat.

But this is not a traditional conservation versus agriculture story. The farmers are angry at the intensification that is being forced upon them. They have been told by the central Spanish government that massive irrigation schemes are "in the national interest". They are required to take out large bank loans to pay a share of the irrigation costs. The theory is that new, higher yields will make paying back simple. Farmers — in every society, an independent-minded bunch — are not convinced.

Irrigation schemes have already drastically lowered the water table in some areas. A few years ago, around Madrid, farmers could plough down to the water table. Now it is 500 ft below ground.

Manuel Martín Parraero, the president of ASAJA, an acronym which translates as Agrarian Association of Young Farmers, says: "Because of the hard conditions, competitive agriculture in the European markets is almost impossible for

us. We have no long-term chance of increasing production. What we do have here are environmentally good conditions. Environmentally friendly farming should be the solution."

There is a mechanism that would allow farmers to continue, or return to, traditional farming, namely to designate the places they farm as environmentally sensitive areas, or ESAs. Under this arrangement, farmers can be recompensed if they choose to farm in a prescribed manner: one that is less profitable but environmentally friendly.

The heart of the Spanish Steppes Campaign is to have the crucial areas of the steppes declared ESAs. "The traditional way of farming maintains the productivity of the land. When they try to force intensification by irrigation, this system is broken," Carlos Martín, the conservation officer of SEO, says. "The land loses its economic as well as its environmental value. If you irrigate and fertilise and use pesticides, you will have good crops for three or four years. But in a few years the entire area will be useless. It is not economic sense for the farmers. That is why most of them support us."

"I want to make it clear that we are not pointing the finger at Spain: we are not saying that Spain is the poor man of Europe. In environmental terms," Mike Parr, the development

officer at ICBP, says. "In fact, in some important aspects of conservation, Britain's record is far worse."

The campaign will involve lobbying the Spanish government, persuading them to designate five main areas as ESAs, further lobbying in Brussels and spreading information on the concept of ESAs to Spanish farmers. British conservationists will encourage the British government to support the steppes' cause during its presidency of the EC.

"This is a test case for the European Community," Mr Parr says. "It is an issue that asks crucial questions about the twin objectives of development and conservation. If the EC can get it right here, then we can get it right elsewhere in Europe too."

"Until now, we knew the great bustards lived here, but we didn't pay any attention to each other," Señor Martín says. "Now we realise the importance of these big birds, and we have a chance to show them to the rest of the people. It is not just a question of free money — we also have a chance to do something for society."

In the field behind him, a lone great bustard paced pompously through the corn, a gloriously whiskered male, an avian heavyweight in white and coppery-gold — and an ancient part of an ancient agricultural landscape.

Title holders at the palace

The Queen has invited 2,000 sports champions of the past 40 years to celebrate their achievements in style

Only a decidedly bad sport would question the selection of some of the 2,000 British world champions invited to a special Buckingham Palace garden party on July 9 to celebrate 40 years of sporting attainments since the Queen's accession to the throne. So here goes.

Geoff Boycott? Has he furiously been developing world-class skills in some arcane solo sport with world championship status? And Stanley Matthews? Surely he was not still playing in 1966?

Obviously there can be no quibbling with the inclusion of Brian Coddough, winner of the roller-skating world artistic dance championships in 1962, nor with that of Derek Patterson, a member of the world junior bridge championship-winning team in 1989. But Sir Robert Reid, the chairman of British Rail? And Jacques Delors?

Well, July 9 will be day nine of Britain's presidency of the EC, hence the invitation to M. Delors, and Sir Robert is a former winner of the one-

armed golf championships. Stanley Matthews may not strictly have been a world champion, but he was undisputedly the best of his day. As for "Sir" Geoffrey Boycott, never let it be forgotten that he was a member of the 1977 and 1981 cricket teams that won the Ashes.

As will be evident, there is ample scope here for liberal selector and armchair arbiter alike. In this respect the party, far and away the biggest assembly of champions held in Britain, is right in the mainstream of great sporting occasions, contentious but Corinthian. However, someone had to be chairman of the selectors, and the job fell to Peter Lawson, the general secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR), a voluntary and independent umbrella group for a membership of nearly 200 sporting organisations.

"Originally I thought in terms of a reception," Mr Lawson explains, "inviting the Queen (who is patron of the CCPR) and Prince Philip (its president), and all the men and women with world championship status, or with gold medals at Olympic or Commonwealth games. Having floated this notion, I received a summons to the Palace from Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, who bowed me over by saying that the Queen and Prince Philip wanted to take the idea even further and hold a garden party. Personally, I

would have been more than happy with the Albert Hall, but a garden party at Buckingham Palace was beyond my wildest expectations."

There will be another commemoration of the 40 years' worth of worldbeaters, in the form of a book, *Champions of the Queen*, to be published by the Council in July. This takes us year by year through the sporting attainments of the reign. In 1966, for example, the *annus mirabilis* of national soccer, we also had two more, less well sung champion combinations: in athletics the cross-country team, and in ice skating the dance pair of Bernard Ford and Diane Towler. Then there was the indoor bowls champion, David Bryant, who crops up a full 20 years later as one half of the indoor champion pair, in boxing there was the flyweight champion Walter McGowan; in cycling the women's pursuit champion Beryl Burton; in motor cycling Mike Hailwood, at both 350 and 250cc, and in snooker the durable John Pullman.



From the class of 66: boxer Walter McGowan

The occasion comes, in Mr Lawson's view, at a particularly propitious moment. "We have a very good standing in many of the sports," he says. "But, even more important, we have as good a relationship with government as at any time, with a representative of our interests at cabinet level."

Mr Lawson's next goal is to start a World Champions' Sports Club, one purpose of which would be to enable young competitors to benefit from the experiences of past champions. "So many of them have such extraordinary stories to tell," he says.

But first there is the July 9 fixture. If it goes off with deceptive ease this will be because, like most sporting pinnacles, it is the result of infinite preparation.

ALAN FRANKS



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TES

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When America votes, Estelle DeBates is confident she will be a loser

This year's American presidential race may be wide open but one party confidently expects a drubbing in November's poll. The Socialist Workers' Party has already chosen its candidates, but the woman who should have her eyes on Dan Quayle's job has no doubt about her chances.

Estelle DeBates, aged 32, the party's vice-presidential candidate, says: "President Bush will win again, though he'll be given a tough time by Ross Perot. We're not in the election for votes because social forces would have to be so different for us to win. The aims of The Communist Manifesto won't be realised overnight. But we want to reach out to the small layer of people who are receptive to our ideas and build the leadership of the working class."

Ms DeBates has been in Britain to spread the socialist message and to support the workers' struggle. First port of call in London was an early morning appointment on a picket line outside Stratford Magistrates Court to support two black men accused of beating up two policemen. Somewhat quixotically, she accuses the British police of being given a free rein to terrorise workers.

Later, Ms DeBates addressed students at Queen Mary and Westfield College in the East End. Seated, and reading from a neat set of



Spreading the message in London: Estelle DeBates says "Civilised discussion is the best way and I try to listen"

notes, she seemed a different breed from the unreconstructed members of her party's British namesake, who took exception to her views on the former Soviet Union. She had said that for all its faults it was still a workers' state, though a "deformed" one. To the British faction it was a regime run by bloated bureaucrats who oppressed workers in a system of state capitalism.

Ms DeBates is, indeed, an unlikely revolutionary. Although she peppers her conversation with casual references to "Fidel" in Havana she spells out her agenda in the soothing tones of an

assured school teacher. "I have confidence in my ideas and I don't think shouting helps," she says. "Civilised discussion is the best way and I always try to listen. There are people on the left who are aggressive and frustrated. I'm not and I have total confidence that things will change. I am very patient and know there are big battles coming that will involve tens of thousands of American workers."

Her struggle is hardly helped by America's political system which excludes fringe parties. She says: "The election rules are prohibitive and undemocratic. We have to collect

thousands of signatures in every state just to be allowed on the ballot paper. In 1988 we only made the ballot in 17 states."

Life has become a little easier for the party since a judge awarded them \$264,000 (£130,000) in 1986 to compensate for FBI harassment. But Ms DeBates is sure she is still being watched. "Logically they have no right to hound me but it is well known that they keep tabs on people. I am sure I am considered a threat to national security," she says.

In her campaign leaflet Ms DeBates claims her eight

years' experience in the clothes industry as her qualification for leadership. Although she dropped out from the University of Minnesota, she could presumably have secured a better job than as a seamstress. But she took the job for "political reasons". She says: "I didn't let on about my education. I wanted to be part of the industrial working class to see what is happening. Socialists who don't take part in discussions with workers think they are beaten down and see the future as bleak. I don't feel that way at all."

She used to support the Democrats, but became disil-

lusioned. "I grew up on a farm in South Dakota and my family felt the full force of the depression in the 1930s. This raised my interest in politics and I went to work for the Democrats at the age of 19 as they were meant to be the party for workers. I soon quit. They just paid lip service to the thousands of people losing their jobs."

Ronald Reagan's meddling in Central America and the Nicaraguan revolution spurred Ms DeBates into the socialist cause. She still visits the region and has great affection for Cuba. "I may not agree with all that Fidel does but I have tremendous respect for him and I think he is a popular leader. He has led an internationalist cause. Sending Cuban troops to Angola was a fine example of that."

These sentiments contrast with her contempt for America's leaders. "The United States is the epitome of what is wrong with the world. There is a deep social and political crisis and Ross Perot's success stems from the failure of the two parties to solve these problems."

Not surprisingly, she vehemently opposed the war in the Gulf, though this was not out of sympathy for Saddam Hussein. "The Gulf war was the opening of World War Three and revealed the complete crisis of world capitalism. We put ourselves in the shoes of workers in Iraq and the war was certainly not in their interest. Saddam's invasion of Kuwait was just for his interest, but American imperialism made things worse. The US will continue to use its unparalleled military might against anyone that threatens its interests."

NICHOLAS WATT

Robin Neillands begins a guide to the best French beaches with an Atlantic-coast tour starting at Calais



Once more unto the beach: Deauville, where racehorses or polo ponies enjoy their early morning gallops and the very smart set take shelter in celebrity beach huts

With an ocean, a sea and a Channel coast to play with, France is naturally well endowed with beaches. They come in every shape and kind, and often with a range of attractions. All but the most secluded beach will have swings and a club des jeunes for tots and toddlers. Restaurants, beach bars and oyster stalls are close by to prevent any fears of starvation and the range of beach and water sports gets wider as the beaches and offshore waters get cleaner. There are beaches to take the top off and beaches where they take the lot off. So which one to choose?

Along the Channel coast there are good beaches beside the ferry ports of Calais and Boulogne, popular with the local windsurfers and sand yachters, but for the really outstanding beaches you have to go further south, to resorts like Le Touquet, where the Paris smart set still put on a little colour. There is still put on a little colour. There is still put on a little colour. There is still put on a little colour.

Moving south, the ferry and fishing port of Dieppe has a steep shingle beach that is both attractive and historic. This beach is supported by a wide promenade, the Square du Canada, a thalassotherapy centre and a line of

Best of the west

agreeable hotels. For an evening stroll the beach at Dieppe is hard to beat.

A little less crowded are the beaches of the small resorts tucked into the cliffs of the Alabaster Coast, between Dieppe and Le Havre. The most attractive is the beach at Eretat, flanked by the fantastic cliff formations of the Falaise d'Aval and the Falaise d'Amont where the sea cut and carved great arches in the rocks.

These are family resorts, places for buckets, spades and fishing nets. Deauville, on the other hand is smart; make that very smart. The morning stroll along the beach at Deauville is likely to be enlivened by the galloping of racehorses or polo ponies. After that, the very smart crowd rests under a great cloud of umbrellas or shelters in beach huts, each named after a film star or celebrity.

The beaches on the western side of the Orne river, past the port of Ouistreham, attract visitors for another reason. These are the beaches of D-Day 1944, still known by their code names, Sword and Juno and Gold. Just past the harbour of Port-en-Bessin lies the

four-mile strand of Omaha beach and half-way up the east coast of the Cotentin lies Utah beach, where holidaymakers give way to portly gentlemen in blazers and regimental ties, standing quietly in little groups before memorials to their friends.

Those who like to find out-of-the-way beaches, ideal for picnics and sunbathing need look no further than the western coast of the Cotentin, south of Cherbourg. This is the most attractive coast of Normandy and contains the harbour at Port Racine, the smallest in France.

This is the Atlantic now and the tides are high and fast, so beach warnings should be observed. Carteret and the twin resort of Barneville have good sandy beaches and estuaries popular with yachtsmen, but my favourite beach resort here is Portbail, which lies in a small bay amid a wilderness of blue sea and sand dunes.

To the south the beaches get longer and wider around the bay of Mont St Michel and into Brittany, where there are quiet sandy beaches north of Cancale, famous for its oysters, and

around the headland to St Malo.

Wise beach-buffs will cross the mouth of the Rance to Dinard, another of those classic little resorts where the beaches lie below the cliffs, rather like Cornwall. The Breton coastline is seamed and dotted with such resorts. The beaches of the "Granit-Rose" coast around Perros-Guirec are perfect for families with small children, for every cove is flanked with red rocks to climb on and rock pools to paddle or shrimp in, and the sea goes out for miles.

For something different there is the great firm sandy beach of the Presqu'île de Quiberon, near Carnac in the Morbihan, where the sand yachts go speeding.

On down the coast, stopping to admire the fashionable strand of La Baule, and across the river to the Vendée, where the most popular beach resort is Pornichet, with sandy beaches and rocky coves and beach cafés serving seafood with Muscadet. Though for that kind of lunch I prefer to hop across the causeway to Noirmoutier.

Attractive offshore islands are one of the features of the western coast of France and of them, the Ile

d'Yeu, the Ile de Ré and the Ile d'Oleron are in easy reach of the mainland. The most popular beach hereabouts, however, is the one at Les Sables d'Olonne.

South across the Gironde estuary lies the great Dune de Pilat near Arcachon, nearly 500ft high and the tallest sand dune in Europe, which intrepid people ride up and down on in beach buggies. Pine trees and sandy beaches are a feature of the western Landes down to the fringes of the Basque country and the resort of Biarritz.

Biarritz was once a very fashionable watering hole and still has its devotees who come to stroll among the hydrangeas, and dine at Le Gallon or the Café de Paris, but most of the younger ones are more interested in the surfing, for which Biarritz provides the finest facilities and some of the biggest waves in France.

The Spanish frontier and the Pyrenees now lie ahead but there is still one more attractive beach resort before the Bidasoa, at St Jean de Luz. St Jean has a fine, curving, sandy beach and a picturesque harbour full of sunny fishing boats and good local food at Le Petit Grill Basque, in the Rue St Jacques — a good place to end this leg of the journey.

TOMORROW
The Mediterranean

Romance to the fore

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The whole *raison d'être* of sport is to have something to talk about afterwards. Conversely, in France conversation is the most popular sport of all. If you expect to score linguistically at this time of year fluency in a broad spectrum of games is advisable.

For centuries France and England have been battling words to and fro across the Channel. Although French has piled up a big score in the arts (*pas de deux*, *avant-garde*, *roman à clef*) and romance (*femme fatale*, *ménage à trois*, *crime passionnel*), we are well ahead on points in sports vocabulary. We have "*le football*", "*le rugby*", and "*le surf*" to our credit, while the opposition has come up with *boules*, *croquet*, and *Grand Prix*. We even offered them "*le cricket*" but it never caught on.

"*Le tennis*" should apparently be chalked up to us. French poached it from English to replace "*la paume*", ("palm", originally played without racquets — hence the "*Jeu de Paume*", where the game was played). But we derived it centuries before from "*tenet*" (take that), which is what you said to your opponent when serving (the tennis equivalent to the golfer's "*fore*"). The French counterpart to Wimbledon is the "Grand Slam" (a fusion of the two languages — in French, "*Le Grand Chelem*") is Roland Garros, where the French Open is held on *terre battue* (clay courts, literally "beaten earth") as opposed to *la pelouse* (lawn).

French has been crucial to the genesis of at least one item in the tennis lexicon, which has a deceptively romantic flavour: "*love*", as in "*40-love*". This is probably an English corruption of the French *l'oeuf* (the egg), representing 0 (similarly the cricketer "*duck*" was originally "*duck's egg*"). At Roland Garros you won't however, hear "*quarante-oeuf*" but "*quarante-zéro*". If the next three points go to the receiver the score is not "*deux*" (for "*deuce*") i.e. requiring two points to win but "*égalité*".

A rugby-playing friend of mine got by very well in France on the strength of a few early vulgarities and the occasional rousing chorus of *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*. I only played in one rugby match in France and was later informed, "*ras joué comme un pied*" (literally, "you played like a foot"). This was not intended as a compliment though.

Rugby followers are sometimes known as "*les fanatiques du ballon ovale*" to distinguish them from "*les fanatiques du ballon rond*". Both rugby and football share a number of euphemisms for violent conduct: *viol* and *energie* are convenient, particularly when refer-

ring to the dangerous play of *Les Tricolores* (the French team). A bull that is "telegraphed" in English is "*le téléphone*" in French. If you hear "*à la douche*" ("to the shower"), it is likely you are being sent out. Both English and French are indebted to sports for a plethora of metaphors e.g. *prendre la bulle au bond*: literally, take the ball on the bounce; figuratively, seize an opportunity. *Attraper la balle* means to react quickly or think on your feet. "*C'est du billard*" — it's a piece of cake and "*non comme une bille*" — drunk. "*J'ai les boules*" does not mean "I have the balls" (ready for a game of boules or pétanque), but rather "I'm fed up". Similarly, *tu me fous les neurones* does not mean "please give me the balls" but "you get on my nerves".

Sporting metaphors are among the most fondly difficult to translate. There ought to be a prize for a decent (i.e. similarly sporty) translation of "*tu bat on a sticky wicket*", "play with a straight bat", and "hit for six".

For most of July the main topic of conversation in cafés and bars will be the Tour de France, probably the most intellectually respectable of sports. Even the semioticist Roland Barthes devoted an essay to the subject in *Athéologie*, comparing the epic cycling race to Homer's *Odyssey* and the heroic theatre of Cornille. "*Ces hommes sont des dieux*" ("these men are gods"), the remark of one *fanatique du cyclisme* as the *peloton* (the "pack") raced by, sums up the French attitude. The American Greg Le Mond used to be known derisively as "*un sucru de roue*" (wheel-sucker) for shrewdly staying in the slipstream of the pacemaker. *La pédale* is used as a synonym for *cyclisme* (and *pédaleur* for cyclist). But take care: *être de la pédale* — homosexual (through association with *pédo*, short for *pédéraste*, *Pédaler dans le choucroute* (for *le yaourt*) is an expression for wasting one's time.

After "*Le Tour*" is finished you can start talking about "*Les J.O.*" (pronounced "*Géo*") i.e. *Les Jeux Olympiques*.

ANDY MARTIN

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A friendly welcome in the Périgord

A few miles off the beaten track in the Dordogne valley lies Cazenac, the elegant château owned by Philippe and Armelle Constant. Part of the 16th-century facade is visible from the driveway, though most of the house was built in the 18th century. Yet only when you stroll round to the rear terrace does the château's show off its spectacular view over the river and the hills beyond.

Like the other "Gentilhommières", this is no hotel: there is no reception desk, no porter to carry the bags and hover for a tip. Here you stay with the Constants, as if with friends. They are an instantly likeable couple who bought Cazenac four years ago and have been restoring it since.

Their system is flexible: if you want to eat out, no problem. However, you might miss the chance to eat food prepared by the Constants' friend Danièle Mazet-Depuch, a renowned cook who spends part of her time as a private chef to François Mitterrand at the Elysée Palace. Evening meals are usually available at weekends and for groups.

Cazenac has four bedrooms, each distinctively different in

style and each with private bathroom. Breakfast can be taken in the magnificent high-ceilinged kitchen, and there are two dining rooms.

Guests can swim in the pool just below the terrace, play on the tennis court, take a ride in the Constants' horse-drawn trap with its two powerful Postier-Breton horses, go for picnics, or take to the air in a Cessna from a nearby aeroclub and fly over 16 of the Périgord's castles and châteaux. Or they may prefer perhaps to visit Sarlat (16 miles) or historical sites at Les Eyzies (11 miles) and Lascaux (19 miles: the original caves are closed but a remarkable facsimile is open).

The château sits in extensive grounds. Much of the land is wild, where the horses roam, but there is a field of young walnut trees with a view to future income.

The Constants, who have two young children, are happy to welcome guests for short or long stays (£90-£114 double room, bed and breakfast, before discount) and are keen to introduce them to Périgordin food and wine, even to the extent of going to local markets and teaching them how to make *terrine de foie gras*.



Cazenac: beauty at the heart of the Périgord



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Applications are invited from well qualified teachers for the following posts at Aycliffe Centre for Children, which is a national centre of EBD children from 8 to 18 years. Set in a rural part of County Durham.

The educational programme at Aycliffe is student centred, and whilst conforming to the National Curriculum requirements, offers an exciting range of Educational activities, including a thriving Enterprise function: expeditions into the beautiful local countryside and further afield skiing, canoeing, rafting and rock-climbing; a well structured and varied pre-vocational curriculum, and visits from outside bodies such as Geese Theatre Group.

Education Tours (NJC conditions of service apply: 6 weeks holiday, a personal four point salary scale within the range £15,056 to £21,186 according to qualifications and experience. Pay award pending.) Education Tutors are required with skills in the following subject areas:

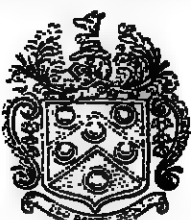
Mathematics PE/Dance
Outdoor Pursuits Special Needs
Personal & Social Education/Health & Beauty Culture
Art/Pottery

Application forms and Job Designs are available from Mrs Mandle Spence at the address or telephone number shown below.

Closing date for all applications is Thursday 8 July 1992. Would applicants please indicate time of non-availability for interview during the Education holiday period.

Aycliffe, Centre for Children, Copeland, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6JB. Telephone 0325 300101

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CHARTERHOUSE
HEAD

The governing Body invites applications for the post of Head which will become vacant in September 1993 following the retirement of Mr. Peter Attenborough after twelve years' service.

Further details and information on how to apply can be obtained from The Clerk to the Governing Body, Charterhouse, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 2DF.

Tel: 0483-426805
Fax: 0483-860449

The Closing date for applications is Friday, 18 September 1992.



HMC, Co-educational, Day & Boarding

HEAD

The Governors of Wellington School are seeking applicants for the post of Head to succeed Mr. G. Garrett MA, who will be retiring in August 1993.

Details of the post and application forms can be obtained by writing to:

The Chairman of the Governing Body
Wellington School
Wellington, Northants NN8 2BX

Closing date for applications will be 31st August 1992.

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The College intends to elect two Senior Research Fellows, one in Law and one in Economics - both subjects broadly considered - in the North of Spain. The Fellowships are open to men and women. The College regards a Senior Research Fellowship as being of comparable academic standing to an Oxford University Professorship, and applicants are expected to have a correspondingly distinguished record of achievement in research.

Senior Research Fellowships are normally held until retirement age (subject to renewal by the College every seven years and the requirements of the Education Reform Act, 1988). The total emoluments are comparable to those of an University professor Scale A.

Further particulars, including details of emoluments and terms of appointment, application forms, and copies of a memorandum for referees may be obtained from the Warden's Secretary, All Souls College, Oxford OX1 4AL. Applications, on the application form, should reach the Warden not later than Monday, 9th November 1992 (the envelope containing the application to be marked "Senior Research Fellowship"). Applicants are asked to ensure that references, from not more than three referees, also reach the Warden by Monday, 9th November 1992.

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